PICTURESQUE VIEWS,

WITH

An Historical Account

OF THE

INNS OF COURT,

IN

LONDON AND WESTMINSTER.

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BY

SAMUEL IRELAND,

AUTHOR

OF

A TOUR THROUGH HOLLAND, BRABANT, &c.

OF PICTURESQUE VIEWS OF THE RIVERS THAMES,

MEDWAY, AVON, AND WYE,

AND OF

GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATIONS OF HOGARTH,

&c. &c.

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1800.

G.R. III
BRITISH MUSEUM

TO THE

RIGHT HONORABLE

Alexander, Lord Loughborough,

Lord High Chancellor

OF

GREAT BRITAIN,

THIS

WORK,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE INNS OF COURT,

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

By His LORDSHIP's

MOST DEVOTED AND OBEDIENT SERVANT,

SAM^L. IRELAND.

NORFOLK STREET,
June, 1800.

PREFACE.

TO extend the circle of national fame, by diſplaying the refinement of taſte and the progreſſive improvement of art, is an object which may claim attention from thoſe who are employed in the melioration of mankind, by the diffuſion of the advantages of ſcience. A work, deſigned to celebrate the magnificence and the antiquity of the public ſtructures, which embelliſh a flouriſhing and

wealthy

wealthy city, may at once exhibit the munificence of the ſtate, and co-operate with the liberality of its laws, to attract and to invite the attention of ſtrangers from the moſt diſtant countries.

The taſk of illuſtrating thoſe monuments, which boaſt antiquity or ſplendor, will require the aid of hiſtorical inveſtigation, and be greatly facilitated by the repreſentations of imitative art.

It has long been the ardent wiſh of the author of this volume, to lay before the public ſome additions to

the

the various illuſtrations which have been already given, of the antiquities of his native city. To his pencil and his pen, the Inns of Court ſeemed to offer ample materials. Their venerable buildings deſervedly rendered them the objects of the one; the laws and cuſtoms of their learned ſocieties imperiouſly demanded the attention of the other.

The ſubject of the preſent work has never been conducted on a ſimilar plan; and the views, which the author has ſelected, have not before been preſented to public notice; though their objects have engaged

 the

the attention of the antiquaries, from Stowe to Pennant.

As theſe reſearches, which are not publiſhed without diffidence, were undertaken with zeal, and proſecuted with diligence, the author truſts, that, whether this volume ſhall be conſidered as a local hiſtory, or a ſeries of repreſentations, detached from the connected narration, his exertions will neither have been totally fruitleſs, nor his execution wholly deſtitute of intereſt and effect. If, however, in the ardor of inquiry, his criticiſms ſhould ſometimes appear tinctured with ſeverity,

verity, he moſt anxiouſly deprecates the charge of harboring, againſt any individual, a ſentiment of perſonal reſentment.

As a painful illneſs has for ſeveral months ſeverely afflicted the author, and greatly retarded his purſuits, he cheriſhes the hope, that candor will excuſe the inaccuracies which may frequently occur; and which declining health prevented him from correcting, or undertaking to detect. He relies on the indulgence which he has, on former occaſions, experienced, and zealouſly aſpires to the honor of the public patronage;

which has, in his various attempts, flattered him by the approbation, and recompenſed him by the liberal reward of his exertions.

THE Public is reſpectfully informed, that the Illneſs to which Mr. IRELAND *alludes in his Preface, put a Termination to his Exiſtence, on the Day in which the laſt Sheet of this Work went to the Preſs. Mr.* IRELAND *has left his intended Publication of the Views and Hiſtory of the River Severn, in great forwardneſs.*

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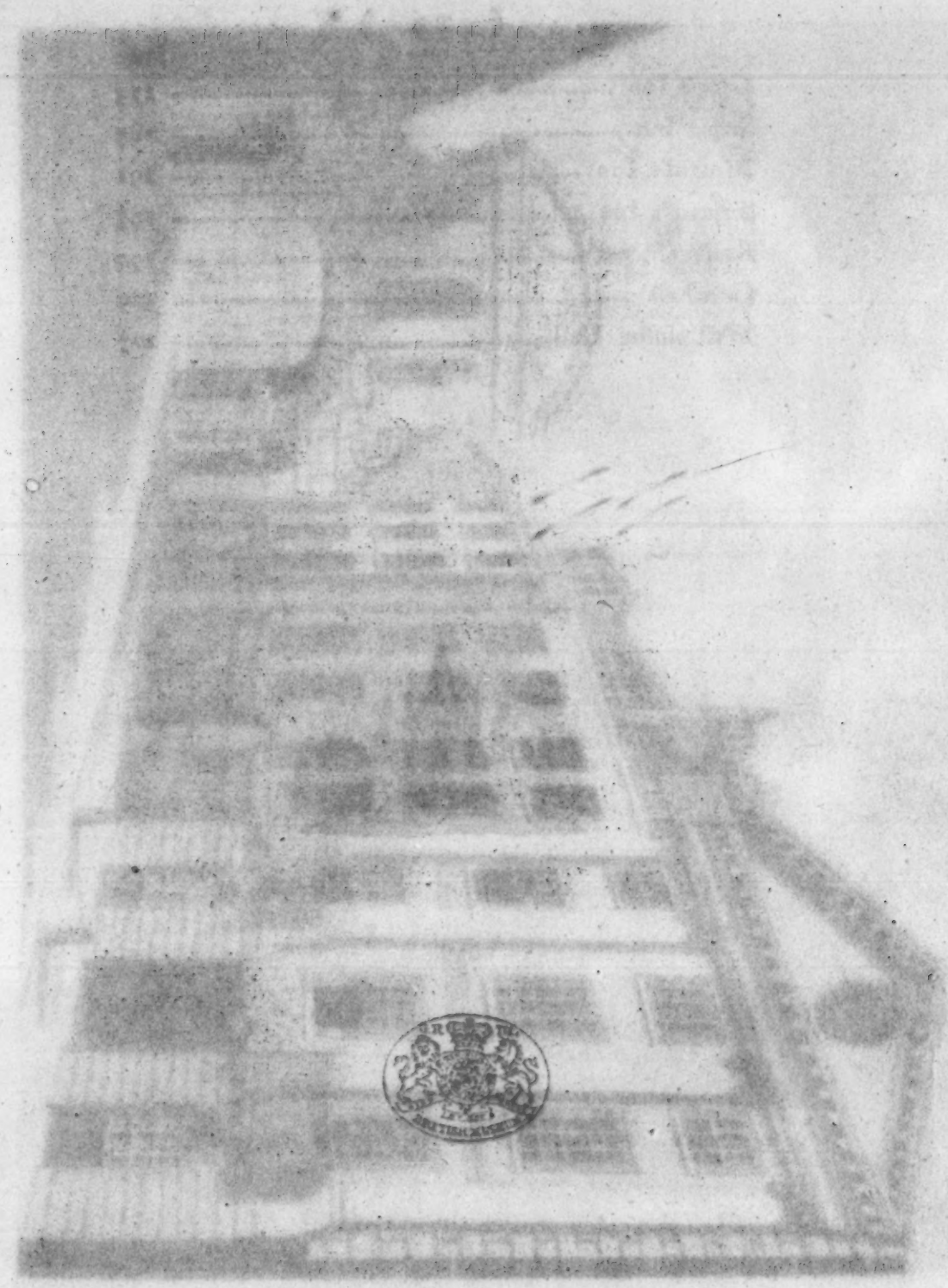

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Middle Temple gate &c.

Pub for S Ireland March 31. 1799.

Hiſtorical

AND

PICTURESQUE VIEWS

OF THE

Inns of Court,

&c. &c.

SECT. I.

THE MIDDLE TEMPLE GATE.

WHEN we conſider the nature, extent, and conſequence of the buildings known to the public by the general name of the Temple, though forming the diſtinct poſſeſſions of two honorable ſocieties, perfectly independent of each other, our aſtoniſhment is in no ſmall degree excited at the mean, and

contracted entrances, by which we are conducted to ſome of the fineſt ſpecimens of ancient and modern architecture, that the city of London has to boaſt.

We have in the annexed view ſelected the only gateway, that is in the leaſt entitled to the appellation of an avenue to the Temple. As an elevation it is highly deſerving of our notice and commendation. Deſigned much in the ſtyle and manner of Inigo Jones, but erected according to the date it bears, long after his death, it has many appearances, which induce us to think it is the work of ſome pupil of that eminent maſter. It is relieved with four pilaſters in ſtone of the Ionic order, with a handſome pediment above, within which is a circular window richly ornamented.

Over the gateway is a figure of the Holy Lamb, the arms of the Middle Temple, and above

above it is inſcribed on a fillet of ſtone,

Surrexit impenſis Societat: Med: Templi,

MDCLXXXIV.

Contemplating this building, as an architectural deſign, the ſcientific obſerver cannot fail to remark the diſproportion, which exiſts between the height, and the width of it's gateway. Both beauty and utility imperiouſly demand a ſpace nearly doubly the ſpan of the preſent width. We cannot however fairly impute blame to the artiſt, who planned it. Thoſe talents, ſo conſpicuous in other parts of this ſtructure, could not have overlooked ſo glaring a fault, and we preſume that want of ground, not want of knowledge, was the cauſe of this defect. The Middle Temple lane is liable to the ſame objection, as it's entrance; it is much too narrow. If there were no other inconveniences attending this defect, the diſplay of one of the nobleſt rooms in the

 kingdom,

kingdom, the middle Temple Hall, would be ſufficient inducement to give greater ſpace, and to exhibit this ſuperb edifice to the public, who paſs the high ſtreet.

From the great declivity of this lane, (an inconvenience perhaps not eaſily remedied) a whimſical circumſtance occurred about 30 years ago, which was related to me by a gentleman, who was a witneſs to the accident.

The Water Gate at the bottom of the lane was removed, for the purpoſe of admitting carts with rubbiſh, &c. down to the Thames, as the river was then embanking. The carriage of Guſtavus Brander Eſq. of the Inner Temple, was coming down the lane, when one of the pole-pieces broke off, and the chariot of courſe followed cloſe upon the heels of the horſes; the coachman loſt all command over them:

they

they precipitated with the carriage to the end of the lane, and deſcending two flights of wooden ſteps, between which was a flat landing place, they ruſhed with great rapidity into the muddy bottom of the Thames. The tide being then low the life of Mr. B. and his ſervant was providentially ſaved. Guſtavus Brander died about the year 1786 or 87, and by his will bequeathed a certain ſum to the clergyman of Chriſt Church in Hampſhire, to preach a ſermon annually on the 1ſt of Auguſt, and left donations to the poor of the pariſh, who ſhould attend to commemorate the anniverſary of his miraculous eſcape.

On the ſpot, where the middle Temple Gate now ſtands, there was formerly an ancient ſtructure, which was erected by Sir Amias Pawlet, in the reign of Henry 8th, on a very ſingular occaſion. Fiddes relates in his life of Wolſey, that Sir Amias about

the

the year 1501, thought fit to put Wolſey, who was then parſon of Lymington in Hampſhire, into the ſtocks. In 1515, Wolſey, bearing his honors thick upon him, and bearing too in mind, the indignity offered to him by Sir Amias, ſent for him to town, and commanded him not to quit it, till he received further orders. In conſequence of this injunction, as we are told by Hollingſhead, he lodged 5 or 6 years over the gate-way, he had rebuilt, and to pacify the reſentment of his eminence, adorned the front with the Cardinal's hat, badges, cognizances and other devices. Such was the condeſcenſion, ſhewn by the great men of that period, to this minion of the court.

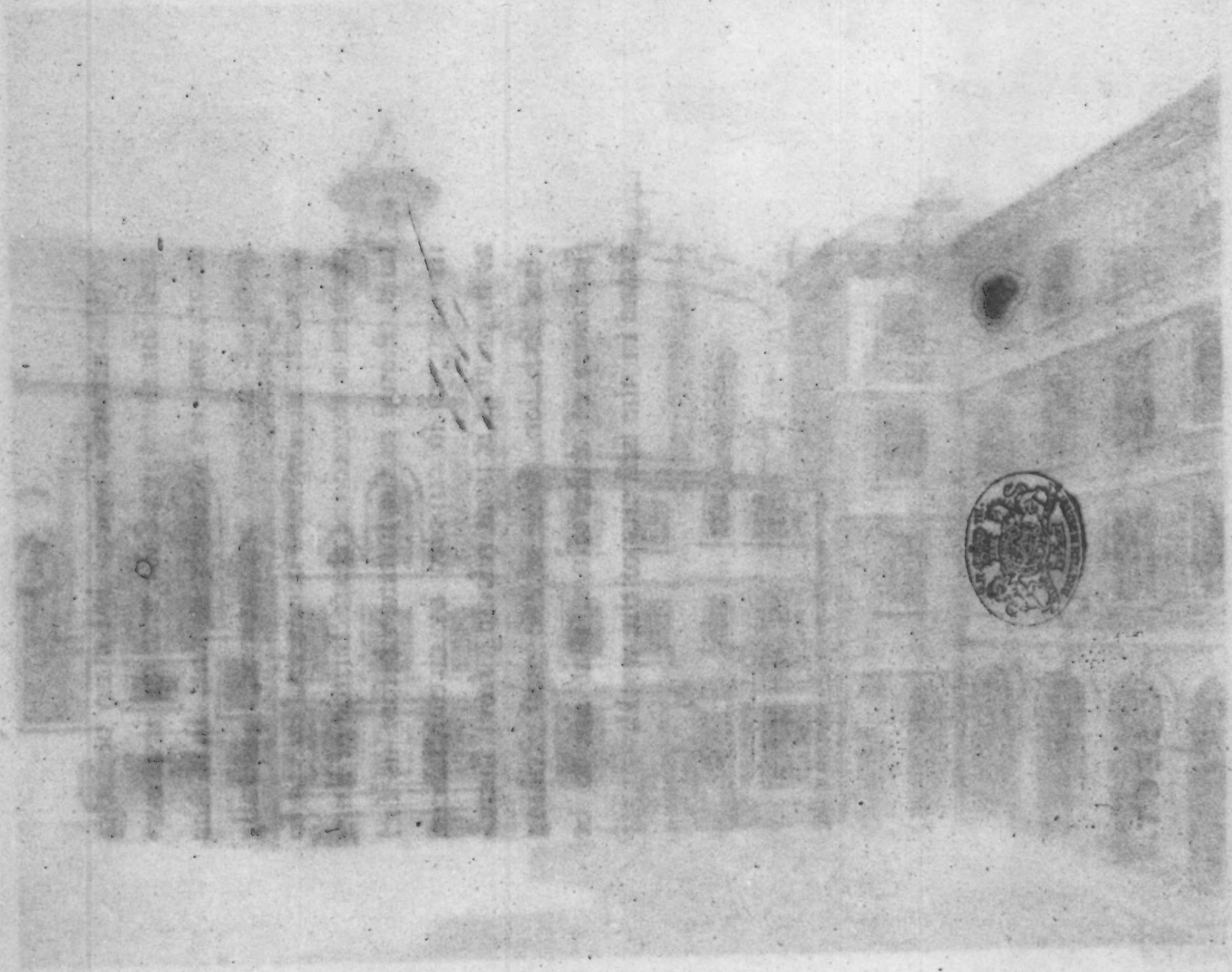
In the view prefixed Temple-Bar is introduced, as a good finiſh to the ſcene, but it has a ſtill higher claim to our reſpect having infinite merit in its deſign.

As

As we are led to believe, that this ſtructure is in a ſhort time to be demoliſhed, and as we have remarked on the paucity of good entrances to either of the Temples, would it not be worthy of the attention of the Benchers of theſe honourable ſocieties, to conſider, to what uſe this gate may be applied, ſo as to give publicity to the grander views of the Temple? The value of it, when eſtimated, as old materials, would not be great, it might be placed either as a foot entrance to the Inner Temple oppoſite Chancery-Lane, or near Mitre-Court, in ſuch a ſpot, as to command a view of that grand area, the King's Bench walk. But perhaps our anxious deſire to lay open this delightful ſcenery to the view of the public may have dictated the ſuggeſtion of a plan, which even the liberality of theſe gentlemen has not the power of carrying into execution.

We are well aware, that many obſtacles ſtand in the way of ſo great an improvement, and we ſincerely lament, that the ſpirit of national munificence, generally prevalent in civilized countries, but in ſo eminent a degree the characteriſtic of England, ſhould in the inſtance before us feel its energies ſo crippled by circumſtances, as to prevent it from reſcuing from unmerited ſecluſion, ſome of the moſt ſtriking ſpecimens of architecture, that are to be found in the firſt city of the world.

SECT.



Temple Church

Pub for S Ireland March 31 1800

SECT. II.

TEMPLE CHURCH, &c.

THROUGH a mean and contracted entrance, called the Inner Temple-Lane, we are led into a ſituation, the moſt ſpacious and beſt ſelected for health and convenience, that London produces, and we are ſorry to remark, that the avenues to them are ſo contemptible, that a foreigner might paſs a life in this city without the leaſt inducement to walk down any of them to explore their termination. The gate-way to this entrance is in the worſt ſtyle of the Gothic of the time of King James. It was built by John Benet Eſq. in the 8th year of that reign, and about ſeven years afterwards the lane was completed. This lane, inſtead of

widening towards the grand entrance of the church, as it ſhould do, continues in a contrary direction till it ſcarcely leaves room for two perſons to paſs, and, from its contractedneſs, leaves the elegant Saxon entrance to the church enveloped in darkneſs.

We ſhall here ſtop at Lamb's buildings, where ſomething like the general form of the external of this ſtructure might have been expected to appear, but as the annexed view will explain, little is to be ſeen, but the upper part all below is encumbered with ſheds and houſes of a mean caſt of character, and ill ſuited to the ſituation. Here ſhoes, boots, wigs and lattitats vie with each other for pre-eminence; why are theſe things permitted? Who poſſeſſes a controul over this ground we know not, but we could wiſh, for the ſake of appearances, that it had remained in the hands of the church,

church, for, even as a church yard, it would in all reſpects have been better than it is. Although this building does not properly form a part of our original intention, which profeſſes to treat of the Inns of Court, and of Chancery, yet it is cloſely connected with the ſubject, and has ſo many claims to our attention, and admiration, from its antiquity and excellent ſtyle of architecture, that we cannot paſs it unnoticed. Nor ſhall we aim at an elaborate deſcription, or criticiſm, as the ſubject has been ſo often, and ſo ably treated.

HAVING viewed the garden or north front of this ſtructure, we found it in every reſpect, more perfect than the ſouth. The ornaments to the windows are much richer, and ſharper, and bear a very ſuperior character to thoſe of the ſouth ſide, which have been often plaſtered over, but there is a monotony in the arrangement of the windows,

that renders this front very inferior, as a landſcape; the eye might have been perhaps relieved by the appearance of the round tower, but it is in no point viſible.

In taking the view of the Temple church, from Lambs buildings, that prefaces this ſection, we beſtowed ſome pains to explore the ground plan of this building, but the encumbrances are ſo numerous, and ſo cloſely affixed to it, that all attempts were vain. The view therefore is here given as a faithful delineation of the ſpot, and not as having any thing pictureſque to recommend it.

Some benefit may however be derived from this repreſentation. Diſguſted by the deformities, with which barbarous hands have diſfigured this elegant ſtructure, the public may be induced to behold with ſome greater degree of reverence the early productions

ductions of art, and deterred by the example before them, they may pauſe a while, ere they conſign to obſcurity the works of genius, and of taſte.

The Temple church was built by the Knights Templars in the reign of Henry 2d on quitting their former reſidence in Holborn, near Southampton buildings. The plan of it was taken from the Temple near to the holy ſepulchre at Jeruſalem.

The entrance into to this venerable building is through a beautiful Norman arch, ornamented in a ſtyle peculiarly rich, and ſuited to the taſte of the time, in which it was built. But we have to lament that it is ſo eclipſed by the adjoining buildings, that the minutiæ of the ornamental parts are loſt. The form within is perfectly circular, and it is ſupported by ſix round

arches

arches which reſt on pillars bound together by a faſcia.

Above is a gallery, with rich Saxon arches, beautifully interſecting each other, and beneath are ſmall Gothic pilaſters terminating in pointed arches at top. The choir is elegant though plain, and acquires additional beauty from being unincumbered with a gallery. The extreme height and narrowneſs of the windows, although uncommon, does not offend the eye. Over a ſmall door near the cloyſter was an ancient inſcription in old Saxon capitals, within a ſemicircle, mentioning the date when the church was dedicated by Heraclius, the patriarch of the church in Jeruſalem, to the bleſſed Virgin; this was in the year 1185.

This inſcription was deſtroyed by the negligence of the workmen during the repairs

pairs made in 1695, but was fortunately preſerved by Mr. G. Holmes, and is to be found in Stowe, Vol. I. p. 745, new edit. fol. The group of knights in the center of the round tower, at the entrance, are particularly ſtriking. Five of them are images croſs-legged, as men having taken a vow to go the Holy Land, to combat Infidels, and unbelieving Jews. One of them is ſaid, according to Stowe, to have been William Marſhall, earl of Pembroke, who died in 1219: he was ſon of the earl of the ſame name, who died in 1231. Gilbert Marſhall, brother to the above William, was brought up to the church, and, though totally unſkilled in arms, would enter the liſts, and mounting a fiery ſteed, at a tournament held at Hertford, in 1241, was ran away with, and killed.

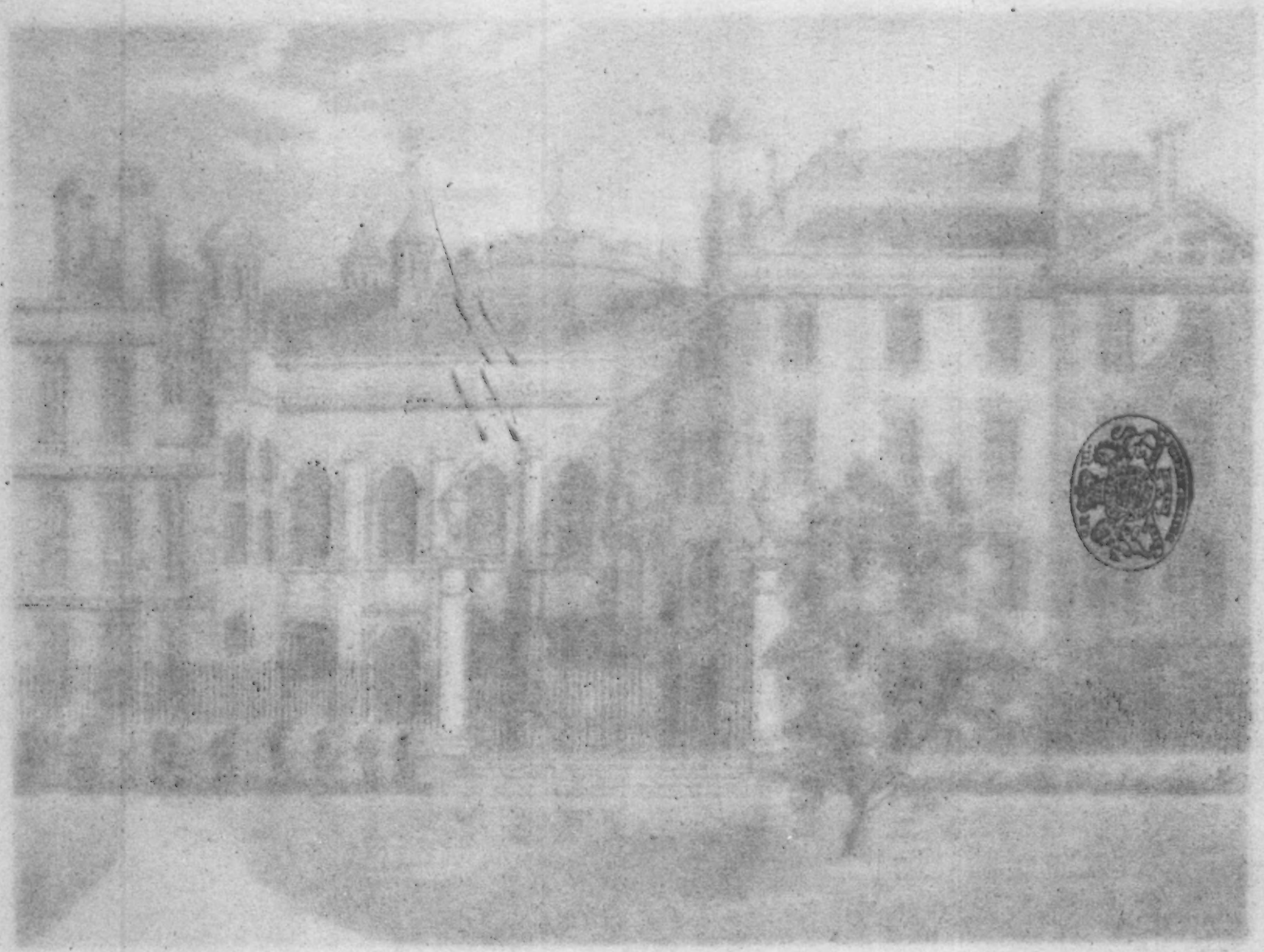
PENNANT

PENNANT ſays, one of them is known to have been Geoffry de Magnaville, created earl of Eſſex in 1148, and relates on the authority of Gough, (in his account of Monuments,) this circumſtance. His end was ſingular; for, driven to deſpair, by the injuſtice of his monarch, king Stephen, he gave looſe to every act of violence. He was mortally wounded at an attack of Burwell caſtle, in Cambridgeſhire; and, being found by ſome Templars, was dreſſed by them in the habit of the order, and carried from the ſpot: as he died excommunicated, they wrapped his body in lead, and hung it on a crooked tree, in the Temple orchard. On being abſolved by the Pope (it being proved that he expreſſed great penitence in his laſt moments,) he was taken down, and buried firſt in the cemetry, and afterwards in this church.

THE ſtone coffin, amongſt the figures, is ſaid to have contained the body of William Plantagenet, fifth ſon of Henry 3d.

AMONGST the other ancient monuments in this church, we cannot paſs over that of the celebrated Plowden, a lawyer of very diſtinguiſhed abilities, and treaſurer of this ſociety in 1572. Camden ſays of him, that in integrity he was ſecond to none of his profeſſion.

THE famous Seldon, is likewiſe interred here, his great knowledge of the conſtitution, and ſkill in the various branches of antiquity are too well known, to make it neceſſary to enlarge upon them. His friend Sir John Vaughan, a man cloſely allied with him in anti-monarchical principles, lies interred very near him.



S. Ireland del.t

Inner Temple.

Pub. for S. Ireland March 31. 1795.

SECT. III.

THE INNER TEMPLE.

THE Inner Temple, on account of its antiquity, demands our firſt attention, as an Inn of Court. We ſhall firſt notice it's Hall, the ſouth front of which, as it appears in the annexed view, was erected about the year 1740, as we may conclude from the date over the gate beneath. To this date the name of Thomas Blencowe is added, as Treaſurer at that time. This front of the Hall was deſtroyed at the above period by a great fire, which does not appear to have reached the north ſide, nor the roof of the building. A ſemi-hexagonal window, in the ſouth front, has been new caſed with ſtone on the outſide, but has eſcaped the ravages

of the flames within, and retains its original form.

ANOTHER conflagration is recorded on the front of what is called the parliament chamber adjoining to the hall. It is engraved on a flat ſtone in the following words. Combuſtum 1678. Thoma Hamner Milite Theſaurar: Reædificatum 1680. Thoma Farrar Armigero Theſaurar.

THE contracted ſpace, on which the Hall ſtands, admitted of no great exertion of ſkill on the part of the architect: there is conſequently little either to cenſure, or approve.

ON the whole the objects, comprized in this view, group tolerably, and afford no unpleaſing landſcape.

THIS view was taken from the Gardens,

at

at a proper diſtance from the gates, to include the top of the round tower and turret of the church. The iron gate at the entrance to theſe gardens, bears the date of 1730, and is ſurmounted with a figure of Pegaſus, the arms of the Society. And here we cannot avoid contemplating the very eligible ſituation of theſe extenſive poſſeſſions, which reach from the White Fryars eaſtward to Eſſex-houſe, without Temple-bar.

The elevated ſite of the numerous buildings gives them every advantage of a free and unincumbered air, while they command a general view of every tranſient object, that preſents itſelf on the boſom of our noble River Thames. The proſpect includes two of the fineſt bridges in the world. In the weſtern corner of the landſcape ſtands that richeſt ſpecimen of Gothic architecture,

Weſtminſter

Weſtminſter Abbey, and the venerable palace of Lambeth.

On the eaſtern ſide riſes the paragon of modern edifices, the cathedral of St. Paul; the remaining parts of the picture are beautified by an extenſive range of towers, and ſpires of churches, that ſhew at once the immenſe ſize, and conſequence of this great city, the envy, and emporium of the world.

The King's Bench Walk is a noble area, and demands every commendation, but we are here ſorry to remark on the abſurdity of erecting a low, and contemptible range of buildings, at the lower end of it, that ſeem placed here, as if in direct oppoſition to taſte and good ſenſe, as they not only ſhut out a fine proſpect, but impede the current of a genial air.

These rooms were built, as a depoſitory for

for papers belonging to the offices of the King's Bench, and were placed in this inſular ſituation to avoid any future accident from fire, as many of the records of that court had once been deſtroyed by that calamity.

But ſurely other places might have been found for the purpoſe equally ſecure, and leſs conſpicuous: ſhould the removal of Temple-bar be adopted, as has been ſuggeſted in a former ſection, it would make an excellent ſubſtitute for theſe buildings.

The very ruinated, and inconvenient ſtate of White Fryars, conſidered as one material entrance to the Temple, we cannot paſs without notice, and regret; it might be improved with much pecuniary advantage to the proprietors, and be made one grand avenue to the extenſive buildings to which it leads.

The inſide of the Inner Temple Hall retains but a ſmall portion of its antiquity. The moſt prominent features of which are the very ſmall, and truly Gothic windows on the north ſide. They have the character of a very early ſtyle of building, moſt probably as ancient, as that of Edward 3d, the period at which we preſume the Hall was erected.

It is very well proportioned though ſmall: the ceiling has a Gothic curve, and is ſupported by ſix ribs in the ſame bend, theſe ſpring, (which is ſomewhat ſingular,) irregularly from the new piers on the north ſide, as well, as from the ſouth, or old front. The ribs are ornamented with groteſque figures, and the ſpaces between, in the ceiling, are filled up with large uncouth forms of roſes, in chiaro oſcuro. At the lower end of the room is a neat ſcreen ſupported by four pillars of the Tuſcan order, above which

which is a ſmall ſhield with the letters I. T. R. inſcribed thereon, (the initials of the name of the Treaſurer of that time.) On the dexter ſide is a Pegaſus, and on the ſiniſter a Griffin, the date is 1680. Above this ſhield is a large King's-arms, carved in wood. On the right of the paſſage, at the grand entrance, are two very ancient apartments, that appear to have been out-offices; they are ceiled with groined arches, and the Gothic windows are in part blocked up: they denote the full extent of the ancient buildings belonging to this Hall. Between the two ancient windows at the upper end of the Hall, within a Gothic compartment, is a large allegorical picture, painted by one of our moſt eminent hiſtorical painters, Sir James Thornhill. He has here introduced the ſtory of Pegaſus, in compliment to the creſt of the ſociety. This appears to be one of the beſt productions of ſir James, and for which this excellent artiſt only

charged 70*l.* it was painted in 1709. Beneath this picture are whole lengths of William and Mary, Queen Ann, and the learned Coke and Lyttleton, in their robes: Coke appears to be, though not original, at leaſt well painted. About ſeven or eight years ago theſe pictures were taken down, and I am informed by a gentleman, who examined them at the time, that they had been much repaired in the faces, and that the picture of Coke is the work of one Wright, who was employed by the city, to paint portraits of the Judges, for Guildhall, after the fire of London. In the books of the Society we are informed that new frames were made for both theſe pictures in 1694. The portrait of Lyttleton is moſt likely a copy from ſome old picture, painted in his life-time. Dr. Lyttleton, who died Biſhop of Carliſle and was deſcended from the Judge, obſerved to a friend of mine, that he believed it to have been taken from a painting

ing of him in glaſs, in a church in Worceſterſhire, and, to the beſt of his recollection, it was that of Frankley.

In the portrait in the Hall, his beard is white, and the hair under his coif of a light brown: this circumſtance, ſays the Hon. Daines Barrington, may be conſidered as a rare inſtance, the white hair teſtifying his wiſdom, while the bright brown may be conſtrued, as a mark of the vigor of his underſtanding. He died at the advanced age of 86, in 1634. Amongſt theſe portraits, at the latter end of the laſt century, there hung one of a remarkable perſon, the infamous Chancellor Jeffries: it was a whole length, painted by Sir Godfrey Kneller for the Society in the reign of Charles 2d, and for which he was paid 50*l*. In the ſucceeding reign of James 2d, this Chancellor became moſt deſervedly unpopular, and in 1693, the portrait of ſuch a man being

conſidered, as of no credit to the ſociety, it was ordered by the Bench to be removed, that no further indignity might be ſhewn to it, and that " Mr. Treaſurer do declare to " the Lord Jefferies (his ſon) that at his " Lordſhip's deſire, the houſe do make a pre- " ſent to his Lordſhip of his father's picture " now in Mr. Holloway's chamber, who " is deſired to deliver the ſame to his Lord- " ſhip or his order." It was accordingly delivered to his Lordſhip by Mr. Holloway, and was conveyed to the family houſe at Acton near Wrexham in Denbighſhire.

FROM the upper end of the hall, we enter a handſome ſpacious parlour lined with oak, and decorated around, on the upper part of the wainſcot, with the arms of the various readers of this Society, conſiſting of about 350 emblazoned in ſmall compartments, from the time of Henry 6th to the preſent period. The earlieſt name of a

reader,

reader, introduced here, is that of Thomas Littleton, who was a knight of the Bath in that reign. This room is called the parliament chamber, and here the Treaſurer and Benchers of the Society meet to tranſact their buſineſs, which from hence is called parliamentary.

Over the chimney in this apartment are ſome carvings of allegorical figures, birds, fiſhes, wheat ſheafs, &c. &c. above theſe ornaments, which are but indifferently executed, are the arms of the ſociety, a Pegaſus within a ſhield, on which is inſcribed, Thomas Walker, Ar. 1705.

From hence we enter ſeveral handſome apartments appropriated to the purpoſes of a library, which by ſeveral donations is furniſhed with books to the amount of 10,000, for the uſe of the gentlemen of the Inn. In this library are a few portraits, viz.

viz. George 2d, Queen Caroline, Carey, Lord Hunſdon, which appears to be an original, Judge Twiſden, a ſmall whole length, Finch Earl of Nottingham, Sir Martin Wright, Lord Chancellor Harcourt, and William Petyt, Eſq. who gave many valuable MSS. to this ſociety. This gentleman was recorder of London in the time of Charles 2d, and ably exerted himſelf againſt that monarch, when he ſtrove to deprive the citizens of their charter by a writ of quo warranto. In this exertion he is well known to have ſucceeded. The moſt curious portrait, I obſerved here, was one ſuppoſed to be of a Mr. Edward Herbert of Packington, which appears to have been painted in the Venetian ſchool. Of this gentleman Mr. Walpole, in his anecdotes of painting, gives the following account; " The head of Mr. Edward Herbert, a " great virtuoſo, who was called the rough " diamond, painted by Carlo Maratti, was,

" with

" with ſome of his books, left by his ne-
" phew to the library of the Middle Tem-
" ple where it remains."

THE Hon. Mr. Daines Barrington juſtly remarks on this anecdote, that, as there is no ſuch portrait in the Middle Temple library, this picture muſt be what is alluded to, eſpecially as Mr. Herbert Jacob, (probably the nephew of the above gentleman) left ſome books to the library of the Inner Temple the 28th Sept. 1726.

WE ſhall now briefly notice the antiquity of this Inn, and ſome of its ancient cuſtoms, and regulations for the promotion of learning. In the time of Henry 2d the Knight Templars had a houſe in Holborn, in the vicinity of Southampton buildings, from whence they removed for convenience to another habitation oppoſite to a ſtreet then called New-ſtreet, now Chancery-lane.

THE

THE origin of this order, ſays Stowe, took place about the year 1118 in the following manner: "Certain noblemen horſemen, re-"ligiouſly bent, bound themſelves by vow-"in the hands of the Patriarch of Jeruſa-"lem, to ſerve Chriſt, after the manner "of regular cannon in chaſtity and obe-"dience; and to renounce their own pro-"per wills for ever. The firſt of which "order was Hugh Paganus (i. e. Pain,) "and Geffrey de S. Aludomare. They "having no certain habitation, Baldwin "King of Jeruſalem granted unto them "a dwelling place in his palace, by the "Temple." Their firſt profeſſion was to protect the pilgrims, coming to viſit the ſepulchre, and to guard the highways. About ten years after their firſt eſtabliſh-ment, they wore a white habit by order of Honorius the 2d, then Pope, and af-terwards, in the time of Pope Eugenius, they bare croſſes of red cloth on their up-permoſt

permoſt garments. Many noblemen, in all parts of Chriſtendom, became brethren of this order, and built Temples in moſt of the cities and great towns. In England this was their chief houſe, though they had many other Temples in Cambridge, Briſtol, Canterbury, Dover, Warwick, and other places. This Temple in London was often made uſe of, as a ſtore houſe for treaſures for ſuch, as judged themſelves inſecure in other places.

These treaſures however we find were not ſo ſacred here, as the owners imagined, for Mathew Paris relates that in the year 1230, Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, being a priſoner in the Tower, the King was informed he had much treaſure, laid up in this new Temple, under the cuſtody of the Knights Templars, and the Maſter of the Temple being examined therein, and confeſſing there were monies, &c. delivered in-

to his charge, the King ſent his Treaſurer and Juſticier of the Exchequer, to the ſaid Hubert, Earl of Kent, to require him to reſign his treaſure into his hands. The money was faithfully told, and together with veſſels of gold and ſilver, and many precious ſtones of conſiderable value, of which an inventory was taken, was laid up in the Treaſury of the Crown.

In the year 1245, the Nuncio of Pope Innocent reſided in this Temple, and that Pope commanded the biſhops of England to carry to his Nuncio 6000 marks, which was however prevented by the interdiction of King Henry.

In 1283, Edward 1ſt, taking with him one Robert Waleran, and others, came to the Temple, where calling for the keeper of the Treaſure-houſe, as if he intended to ſee his mother's jewels, that were laid up there

to

to be ſafely kept, he entered into the houſe, breaking the coffers of certain perſons, that had likewiſe brought their money thither, and he took away from thence, valuables to the amount of 1000*l.* About this period the Templars became ſo rich, that they were enabled to entertain the Nobility, the foreign Embaſſadors, and even the Prince himſelf. Mathew Paris inveighs againſt them bitterly for their pride, which led them to diſdain other orders, and rank themſelves with the Nobility, although their original poverty was ſo abject, that they could afford only one horſe to ſerve two of them, and Stowe ſays, "in token whereof, they "gave on their ſeal, two men riding on "one horſe."

In the reign of Edward 2d, in 1308, the Templars in England, as alſo in other parts of Chriſtendom, were apprehended and committed to divers priſons, and in 1310, a pro-

vincial council was held at London againſt them, upon accuſations of hereſy and other crimes. They denied all the charges except one or two, and pleading guilty to theſe they were condemned to perpetual penance in ſeveral Monaſteries, where they behaved themſelves with modeſty and decorum. Philip le Bel, King of France, cauſed them to be condemned by a general council, and thus procured their overthrow.

ACCORDING to Fabian, Philip, having ſeized their poſſeſſions in France, applied them to his own uſe, and, not ſatisfied with this ſpoil, he cauſed ſixty of them to be publicly burnt in Paris.

So enormous were the riches of this order at its diſſolution, that it was found poſſeſſed of 16,000 manors.

THE property of this wealthy inſtitution devolving

devolving to the Crown, this houſe was given by the king, Edward 2d, to Thomas Earl of Lancaſter, who ſoon after forfeited it by rebellion, when it reverted to the Crown, and was granted firſt to Adomare de Valence, Earl of Pembroke, and after his deceaſe to Hugh le Deſpenſer the younger for life: he being attainted in the 1ſt year of Edward 3d, it once more came to the Crown, in whoſe poſſeſſion it continued till King Edward 3d granted this manſion to the Knights Templars remaining in England, who then had their principal houſe in Weſt Smithfield. Soon after this grant, it is ſuppoſed they demiſed theſe premiſes, for a rent of 10*l.* per annum, to divers profeſſors of the Common Law, that came from Thavies Inn in Holborn. In the reign of Richard 2d, we have reaſon to fear that this new inſtitution was much troubled by the ravages of Wat Tyler and his clan, who, as the following paſſage in the old law French relates,

lates, deſtroyed and burned all their books, records, &c.

" Les Rebells alleront a le Temple, &
" jetterons les meaſons a le terre & aveghe-
" ront Tighles, iſſient que ils fairont cover-
" ture en mal array, & alleront en l'egliſe,
" & priſteront touts les liveres & rolles de
" remembrances, que fueront en lour Hut-
" ches or Cottuges deins le Temple de ap-
" prentices de la ley & porteront in le
" haut chimene, & les arderont."

The peculiar enmity of Wat Tyler and his followers, to this inſtitution, appears to have ariſen from a hatred they bore to Sir Robert Hales, Lord Prior of St. John of Jeruſalem, who from his high dignity, (he being accounted the firſt parliamentary Peer of England,) had it the more in his power to oppoſe them.

Not-

NOTWITHSTANDING the ſpoil of the arch rebel and his followers, the ſtudents of this Inn increaſed ſo rapidly, that they divided themſelves into two bodies, the one known by the name of the Society of the Inner, the other of the Middle Temple. They held this manſion, as tenants to the Hoſpitallers till their diſſolution in the 30th Henry VIII, and afterwards from the crown by leaſe till the the ſixth year of James, at which period they received a grant by letters patent, bearing date at Weſtminſter, on the 13th of Auguſt, by the name of Hoſpicia and Capitalia meſſuagia cognita per nomen de la Inner-Temple, & le Middle Temple, ſive novi Templi, London unto Sir Julius Cæſar Knight, then Chancellor and under Treaſurer of the King's Exchequer.

HAVING thus given a brief account of the ancient hiſtory and eſtabliſhment of

the Temple, we ſhall now remark on the more modern orders for the advancement of learning, and good government in the Inner Temple.

Amongst the earlieſt inſtitutions we find in the 3d, of Phillip and Mary, that no attorney, or common ſolicitor ſhall be admitted into this houſe without the aſſent and agreement of their parliament.

In 42 Elizabeth, that none ſhould be admitted of this ſociety, except he be of good parentage, and not of ill behaviour.

That every man called to the bench ſhould keep ſome learning vacations, next after his calling to and coming to the bench, upon pain of forfeiture for every vacation five pounds.

In the 2d. Elizabeth the ſociety drank

in

in cups of aſhen wood ſimilar to thoſe uſed in the Queen's Court. Theſe were afterwards laid aſide and green earthen pots were introduced.

In the 38 Henry 8th, there was an order made that the gentlemen ſhould reform themſelves in their cut or diſguiſed apparel, and not have long beards, and that the opinion of the Juſtices ſhould be had thereon.

In conſequence, in the 1ſt and 2d, of Philp and Mary there was a decree made, that no fellow of this houſe ſhould wear his beard above three weeks growth upon pain of a forfeiture of 20*s.* and in the 36th Elizabeth it was ordered that no fellow ſhould wear either hat or cloak in the Temple church, hall, buttery, kitchen, &c. under a penalty of 6*s.* 8*d.* nor were they to go in cloaks, hats, or boots and ſpurs into the city, excepting when they rode out of the town.

They were likewiſe reſtrained from exerciſing the play of ſhoff-grote or ſlip-grote, upon pain of 6*s.* 8*d.* It was ordered alſo, that there ſhould be no allowance of wine at Chriſtmas, except one pottle to the ſteward's meſs, according to the ancient uſage of that feſtival. No drinking of healths was allowed, nor any wine or tobacco uttered or ſold within the houſe: nor was any knocking with boxes, or calling aloud for gameſters permitted.

In the 3d Elizabeth, it was ordered that every ſingle Reader ſhould be at three mootes in every term, and in Michaelmus term at four mootes; and every Bencher, not Reader, at five mootes in every term, and in Michaelmas term at ſix, upon pain of forfeiting five ſhillings every moote. And here we ſhall endeavour to explain what is meant by mootyng, a phraſe perhaps not generally underſtood. The Utter Barriſters, that is,

thoſe

thoſe, who had continued in the houſe five or ſix years, and had profited in the ſtudy of the law, had this degree of Utter Barriſter conferred on them, and were called by the Elders or Benchers to plead, argue, and diſpute ſome doubtful matter in the law before certain of the ſame Benchers, in term time, or in the two principal times in the year of their learnings, which they call grand vacations, and the ſame manner of argument or diſputation was called Mootyng. Mootyngs were formerly pleaded or declared by the young learners, in homely Law French, (as it is termed) on ſome doubtful matter, or queſtion in the law; they were afterwards rehearſed by two Utter Barriſters in Law French, for and againſt the queſtion; and then three of the Benchers were to declare their opinions in Engliſh; although the duties of the Readers be now no longer practiſed, it may yet be neceſſary to ſtate what the nature of them was.

Some Utter Barriſter, who had continued fourteen or fifteen years in the houſe, was by the Benchers choſen to read, expound and declare ſome ſtatute openly unto all the Company of the houſe, in one of the two principal times of their learning, which they call their grand vacations in ſummer; and during the time of his reading, he had the name of a Reader, and afterwards of a Bencher.

We ſhall now attempt to ſhew what were the rare amuſements of our ſage and learned men of the Law in the time of Elizabeth, at one of their grand feſtivals of Chriſtmas. We cannot avoid quoting ſome very appropriate lines from the long ſtory of our Poet Gray, as a preface to this curious acoount:

" My

" My grave Lord Keeper led the brawls,
" And ſeals and maces danc'd before him,
" His buſhy beard, and ſhoe ſtrings green,
" His high-crown'd hat, and ſatin doublet,
" Mov'd the ſtout heart of England's Queen,
" Though Pope and Spaniard could not trouble it."

THIS mummery was exhibited in the 4th Elizabeth. The Lord Robert Dudley (afterwards Earl of Leiceſter) was the principal actor, his title on the occaſion was Palaphilos, being Conſtable Marſhall, his offices were, as follow.

Mr. Onſlow, *Lord Chancellor.*
Anthony Stapleton, *Lord Treaſurer.*
Robert Kelway, *Lord Privy Seal.*
John Fuller, *Chief Juſtice of the King's Bench.*
William Pole, *Chief Juſtice of the Common Pleas.*
Roger Manwood, *Chief Baron of the Exchequer.*
Mr. Baſhe, *Steward of the Houſehold.*
Mr. Copley,

Mr. Copley, *Marſhal of the Houſehold.*
Mr. Paten, *Chief Butler.*
Chriſtopher Hatton, *Maſter of the Game,*
(he was afterwards Lord Chancellor.)
Mr. Blaſton,
Mr. Yorke,
Mr. Penſton,
Mr. Jerviſe,
} *Maſters of the Revels.*
Mr. Parker, *Lieutenant of the Tower.*
Mr. Kendall, *Carver.*
Mr. Martyn, *Ranger of the Foreſts.*
Mr. Stradling, *Sewer.*

THERE were beſides theſe ſeveral others, and upwards of fourſcore of the guard.

GERARD LEIGH in his accidence of armory, gives the following curious account of this ceremony, which we ſhall tranſcribe in his own quaint language.

" AFTER I had travailed through the

" eaſt

" eaſt parts of the unknown world, to un-
" derſtand of deeds of armes, and ſo ar-
" riving in the fair River of Thames, I
" landed within half a league from the city
" of London, which was (as I conjecture)
" in December laſt; and drawing near the
" city, ſuddenly heard the ſhot of double
" cannons, in ſo great a number, and ſo
" terrible, that it darkened the whole ayr;
" wherewith, although I was in my native
" country, yet ſtood I amazed, not know-
" ing what it meant. Thus as I abode in
" deſpair, either to return or continue my
" former purpoſe, I chanced to ſee coming
" towards me an honeſt citizen, clothed in a
" long garment, keeping the highway, ſeem-
" ing to walk for his recreation, which
" prognoſticated rather peace than peril;
" of whom I demanded the cauſe of this
" great ſhot; who friendly anſwered. " It
" is, (quoth he,) a warning ſhot to the
" Conſtable Marſhall of the Inner Temple,

" to

" to prepare to dinner." " Why" (ſaid I) " what, is he of that eſtate, that ſaketh no " other means to warn his officers than " with ſo terrible ſhot in ſo peaceable a " country?" " Marry, (ſaith he,) he utter- " eth himſelf the better to be that officer, " whoſe name he beareth."

" I then demanded what province did " he govern, that needeth ſuch an officer." " (He anſwered me,) " The province was " not great in quantity, but ancient in true " nobility. A place, (ſaid he,) privileged " by the moſt excellent Princeſs the High " Governor of the whole iſland, wherein are " ſtore of Gentlemen of the whole nation, " that repair thither to learn to rule and " obey by law, to yield their fleece to their " prince and common-weal; as alſo to uſe all " other exerciſes of body and mind where- " unto nature moſt aptly ſerveth to adorn, by " ſpeaking, countenance, geſture, and uſe of

apparel,

" apparel, the perſon of a gentleman;
" whereby amity is obtained and continued,
" that gentlemen of all countries, in their
" young years, nouriſhed together in one
" place, with ſuch comely order, and daily
" conference, are knit by continual acquaint-
" ance in ſuch unity of mindes, and man-
" ners, as lightly never after is ſevered, than
" which is nothing more profitable to the
" common-weal."

" And after he had told me thus much
" of honour of the place, I commended in
" mine own conceit the policy of the go-
" vernor, which ſeemed to utter in itſelf
" the foundation of a good common-weal;
" for that the beſt of their people, from
" tender years trained up in precepts of
" juſtice, it could not chooſe but yield forth
" a profitable people to a wiſe commonweal;
" wherefore I determined with myſelf, to
" make proofe of what I heard by report."

" The next day I thought for my paſ-
" time to walk to this Temple, and enter-
" ing in at the gates, I found the building
" nothing coſtly; but many comely gentle-
" men of face and perſon, and thereto very
" courteous, ſaw I paſs to and fro, ſo as
" it ſeemed a Prince's poſt to be at
" hand: and paſſing forward entered into
" a church of ancient building, wherein are
" many monuments of noble perſonages
" armed in knightly habit, with their cotes
" depainted in ancient ſhields, whereat I
" took pleaſure to behold. Thus gazing
" as one bereft with the rare ſight, there
" came unto me an herehaught, by name
" Palaphilos, a King of arms, who cour-
" teouſly ſaluted me," ſaying, " For that I
" was a ſtranger, and ſeeming by my de-
" meanour a lover of honour, I was his
" gueſt of right: whoſe courteſy (as reaſon
" was)" " I obeyed, anſwering," " I was at
" his commandment."

" THEN

" THEN ſaid he, ye ſhall go to mine own
" lodging here within the Palace, where we
" will have ſuch cheer, as the time and
" country will yield us; where I aſſure you
" I was ſo entertained, as no where met I
" with better cheer or company."

" THUS talking we entered the Prince his
" Hall, where anon we heard the noiſe of
" drum and fife. (What meaneth this drum?
" ſaid I, quoth he,) this is to warn gentle-
" men of the houſehold to repair to the
" dreſſer; wherefore come on with me, and
" ye ſhall ſtand where ye may beſt ſee the
" hall ſerved: and ſo from thence brought
" me into a long gallery, that ſtretcheth it-
" ſelf along the hall near the Prince's table,
" where I ſaw the Prince ſet; a man of tall
" perſonage, a manly countenance, ſomewhat
" brown of viſage, ſtrongly featured, and
" thereto comely proportioned in all linea-
" ments of body. At the nether end of the

" ſame table were placed the Embaſſadors of
" ſundry Princes. Before him ſtood the
" carver, ſewer, and cup-bearer, with great
" number of gentlemen-wayters attending
" his perſon; the uſhers making place to
" ſtrangers of ſundry regions, that came to
" behold the honour of this mighty captain.
" After placing of theſe honourable gueſts,
" the lord ſteward, treaſurer, and keeper
" of Pallas' ſeat, with divers honourable
" perſonages of that nobility were placed at
" the ſide table neer adjoyning the Prince
" on the right hand: and at another table
" on the leſt ſide were placed the treaſurer
" of the houſehold, ſecretary, the prince
" his ſerjeant at the law, four maſters of
" revels, the king of arms, the dean of the
" chappel, and divers gentlemen penſioners
" to furniſh the ſame."

" At another table on the other ſide
" were ſet the maſter of the game, and his
" chief

" chief ranger, maſters of houſhold, clerks
" of the green cloth and check, with divers
" other ſtrangers to furniſh the ſame."

" On the other ſide, againſt them, began
" the table, the lieutenant of the tower,
" accompanied with divers captains of foot-
" bands and ſhot. At the nether end of
" the hall began the table, the high butler,
" the panter, clerks of the kitchen, maſter-
" cook of the privy kitchen, furniſhed
" throughout with the ſoldiers and guard
" of the Prince: all which with number of
" inferior officers placed and ſerved in the
" hall, beſides the great reſort of ſtrangers,
" I ſpare to write."

" The Prince ſo ſerved with tender
" meats, ſweet fruits, and dainty delicates
" confectioned with curious cookery, as it
" ſeemed wonder a world to obſerve the
" proviſion: and at every courſe the trum-
" petters

" petters blew the couragions blaſt of dead-
" ly war, with noiſe of drum and fife, with
" the ſweet harmony of violins, ſack-butts,
" recorders, and cornetts, with other in-
" ſtruments of muſick, as it ſeemed Apol-
" lo's harp, that tuned their ſtroke."

" THUS the Hall was ſerved after the
" moſt antient order of the iſland; in
" commendation whereof I ſay, I have alſo
" ſeen the ſervice of great Princes, in ſo-
" lemn ſeaſons and times of triumph, yet
" the order hereof was not inferior to any."

" BUT to proceed; this herehaught Pa-
" laphilos, even before the ſecond courſe
" came in, ſtanding at the high table, ſaid
" in this manner. The mighty Palaphilos,
" Prince, Prince of Sophie, High Conſtable,
" Marſhall of the Knights Templars, Patron
" of the honourable order of Pegaſus; and
" therewith cryeth a largeſs. The Prince,

" prayſing

" prayſing the herehaught, bountifully re-
" warded him with a chain to the value of
" an hundred talents."

" I aſſure you I languiſh for want of
" cunning ripely to utter that I ſaw ſo or-
" derly handled, appertaining to ſervice;
" wherefore I ceaſe and return to my
" purpoſe."

" The ſupper ended and tables taken up,
" the High Conſtable roſe, and a while ſtood
" under the place of honour, where his at-
" chievement was beautifully embroidered,
" and adviſed of ſundry matters with the
" Embaſſadors of foreign nations, as he
" thought good, till Palaphilos king of ar-
" mes came in, his herehaught marſhall, and
" purſivant before him; and after followed
" his meſſenger and caligate knight; who
" putting off his coronal, made his humble
" obedience to the Prince; by whom he was
" com-

" commanded to draw near and underſtand
" his pleaſure; ſaying to him a few words
" to this effect; Palaphilos, ſeeing it hath
" pleaſed the high Pallas to think me to de-
" merit the office of this place; and thereto
" this night paſt vouchſafed to deſcend from
" Heaven to increaſe my further honour, by
" creating me Knight of the order of Pega-
" ſus; as alſo commanded me to join in
" the ſame ſociety ſuch valiant gentlemen
" throughout her province, whoſe living
" honour hath beſt deſerved the ſame, the
" choice whereof moſt aptly belongeth to
" your ſkill, being the watchman of their
" doings and regiſter of their deſerts; I will
" ye chooſe, as well throughout our whole
" armyes, as elſewhere, of ſuch eſpecial gen-
" tlemen, as the gods hath appointed, the
" number of twenty-four, and the names of
" them preſent us: commanding alſo thoſe
" choſen perſons to appear in our preſence in
" knightly habit, that with conveniency we

" may

" may proceed in our purpoſe. This done,
" Palaphilos obeying his Prince's command-
" ment, with twenty-four valiant knights,
" all apparelled in long white veſtures,
" with each man a ſcarf of Pallas' colours,
" and them preſented with their names to
" the Prince, who allowed well his choiſe,
" and commanded him to do his office;
" who, after his duty to the Prince, bowed
" towards theſe worthy perſonages, ſtand-
" ing every man in his antienty, as he had
" born arms in the field, and began to
" ſhew his Prince's pleaſure; with the ho-
" nour of the order."

THESE grand Chriſtmaſſes, as appears by the deſcription before us, as well as from the accounts of the houſe, muſt have been attended with enormous expences, and the ſteward and butler muſt have been fully employed on theſe occaſions. " The buſineſs of the former was

" to provide, five fat brawns, fleſh, fowl,
" and all manner of ſpices and other cates
" for the kitchen." " That of the latter,
" to prepare a rich cupboard of plate, ſilver
" and parcel gilt; ſilver and gilt ſpoons,
" candleſticks, linen," &c.

" THE duty of the Conſtable Marhall, was
" to furniſh himſelf with a fair gilt com-
" pleat harneſs, with a neſt of feathers in
" the helm; a fair pole-ax to bear in his
" hand to be chivalrouſly ordered on Chriſt-
" mas-Day, and other days, as afterwards
" is ſhewed." Theſe regulations were made by the Benchers at their parliamentary meeting on the eve of St. Thomas the Apoſtle, and if it was reſolved to proceed with ſuch a grand Chriſtmas; then on the Chriſtmas-Eve the following arangements were made.
" The youngeſt butlers muſt light two
" torches, and going before the bench,
" and being ſeated, the oldeſt Bencher
" deliver-

" delivereth a ſpeech, and then, in token
" of joy and good liking, the Bench and
" Company paſs beneath the harth, and ſing
" a carrol, and ſo to boyer," (qr. beaver.)
" It was, the buſineſs of the Marſhall at
" dinner, to arrange the company accord-
" according to their ſtations, at the head of
" one table the moſt ancient of the compa-
" ny preſent, then the Dean of the Chapel
" and a Bencher beneath him," &c.

" At the upper end of another table,
" the three maſters of the revels, at the
" lower end of the king's attorney, the
" ranger of the foreſt, and the maſter of
" the game, and at the upper end of the Ut-
" ter Barriſters table, the Marſhall ſitteth
" when he hath ſerved in the firſt meſs, at
" the upper end of the Clerks Table, is
" placed the lieutenant of the Tower," &c.

" At the firſt courſe the miniſtrels ſound

" their inſtruments and go before; and the
" Steward and Marſhall next follow, after
" them the Gentleman Sewer; and then
" cometh the meat. Thoſe three officers
" altogether are to make three ſolemn cur-
" teſies, at three ſeveral times, between the
" ſkreen and the upper table. During the
" time of the tables being ſet and ſerved,
" the muſic play, and the muſicians muſt
" direct their faces towards the higheſt ta-
" ble; they then return to the buttery,
" with their muſic ſounding. The ſecond
" courſe is ſerved in, in every reſpect as in
" the firſt, and dinner being ended the mu-
" ſicians prepare to ſing a ſong at the high-
" eſt table. Then after a little repoſe, the
" perſons at the higheſt table ariſe, and pre-
" pare to revels: at night before ſupper,
" revels and dancing again commence, and
" alſo after ſupper, during the twelve days
" of Chriſtmas."

" THE

" THE antienteſt maſter of the revels is " after dinner and ſupper to ſing a caroll or " ſong, and command other gentlemen then " there preſent to ſing with him and the " company, and ſo it is very decently per- " formed; a repaſt at dinner is 8*d*."

CHRISTMAS-DAY.

" SERVICE in the church ended, the " gentlemen preſently repair into the Hall " to breakfaſt with brawn, muſtard, and " malmſey."

" AT dinner, the Butler appointed for the " grand Chriſtmas is to ſee that all the ta- " bles are well ſerved and covered; at the " firſt courſe is ſerved in a fair and large " boar's head upon a ſilver platter, with " minſtralſye. Two gentlemen in gowns " are to attend at ſupper, and to bear two " fair torches of wax, next before the mu-

" ſicians

" ficians and trumpeters and ſtand above
" the fire with the muſick, till the firſt
" courſe be ſerved in, through the Hall."

ST. STEPHEN'S DAY.

" This day the Sewer, Carver, and Cup-
" bearer, are to ſerve as afore. After the
" firſt courſe ſerved in, the Conſtable-Mar-
" ſhall cometh into the Hall, arrayed with
" a fair, rich complete harneſs, white and
" bright, and gilt, with a neſt of feathers
" of all colours upon his creſt or helm, and
" a gilt pole-axe in his hand; and with
" them ſixteen trumpetters, four drums and
" fifes, going in rank before them: and
" with them attendeth four men in white
" harneſs, from the middle upwards, and
" halberds in their hands, bearing on their
" ſhoulders the Tower: which perſons,
" with the drums, and muſick go three
" times about the fire. Then the Conſta-
" ble

" ble Marſhal, after two or three curteſies
" made, kneeleth down before the Lord
" Chancellor, behind him the Lieutenant,
" and they kneeling, the Conſtable Marſhall
" pronounceth an oration of a quarter of
" an hour's length, thereby declaring the
" purpoſe of his coming, and that his pur-
" poſe is to be admitted into his Lordſhip's
" ſervice."

" THEN the Conſtable Marſhall ſtanding
" up, in ſubmiſive manner, delivereth his
" naked ſword to the Steward, who giveth
" it to the Lord Chancellor, and thereupon
" the Lord Chancellor willeth the Marſhall
" to place the Conſtable Marſhall in his
" ſeat; and ſo he doth, with the Lieutenant
" alſo in his ſeat or place. During this
" ceremony the Tower is placed beneath
" the fire."

" THEN cometh in the Maſter of the
" Game,

" Game, apparelled in green velvet, and
" the Ranger of the Foreſt alſo, in a green
" ſuit of ſattin, bearing in his hand a green
" bow and divers arrows, with either of
" them a hunting horn about their necks;
" blowing together three blaſts of venary,
" they pace round about the fire three
" times. Then the Maſter of the Game
" maketh three curteſies, as aforeſaid; and
" deſireth to be admitted into his ſervice,
" &c. All this time the Ranger of the Fo-
" reſt ſtandeth directly behind him. Then
" the Maſter of the Game ſtandeth up."

" THIS ceremony alſo performed, a
" huntſman cometh into the Hall, with a
" fox and a purſe net; with a cat, both
" bound at the end of a ſtaff; and with
" with them nine or ten couple of hounds,
" with the blowing of hunting-horns.
" And the fox and cat are by the hounds
" ſet upon, and killed beneath the fire.

" This

" This ſport finiſhed, the Marſhall placed
" them in their ſeveral appointed places."

" THEN proceedeth the ſecond courſe;
" which done, and ſerved out, the Com-
" mon Serjeant delivereth a plauſable ſpeech
" to the Lord Chancellor and his company
" at the higheſt table, how neceſſary a thing
" it is to have officers at this preſent; the
" Conſtable-Marſhall, and Maſter of the
" Game, for the better honor and reputa-
" tion of the Common wealth; and wiſhed
" them to be received," &c.

" Then the King's Serjeant at Law de-
" clareth and inferreth the neceſſity; which
" heard, the Lord Chancellor deſireth reſ-
" pite of farther advice. Then the antien-
" eſt of the Maſters of the Revels ſingeth a
" ſong, with aſſiſtance of others here pre-
" ſent."

" AT ſupper the Hall is to be ſerved in

" all

" all ſolemnity, as upon Chriſtmas-Day,
" both the firſt and ſecond courſe to the
" higheſt table. Supper ended, the Con-
" ſtable-Marſhall preſented himſelf with
" drums afore him, mounted upon a ſcaf-
" fold born by four men; and goeth three
" times round about the harthe, crying
" out aloud, *A Lord, A Lord*, &c. Then
" he deſcendeth and goeth to dance, &c.
" And after he calleth his court, every one
" by name, one by one in this manner."

" Sir Francis Flatterer, of Fowlehurſt,
" in the county of Buckingham."

" Sir Randall Rackabite, of Raſcal-hall,
" in the county of Rakehell."

" Sir Morgan Mumchance of Much-
" Monkery, in the county of Mad-mopery."

" Sir Bartholomew Baldbreech, of But-
" tockes-bury, in the county of Brekeneck."

" This

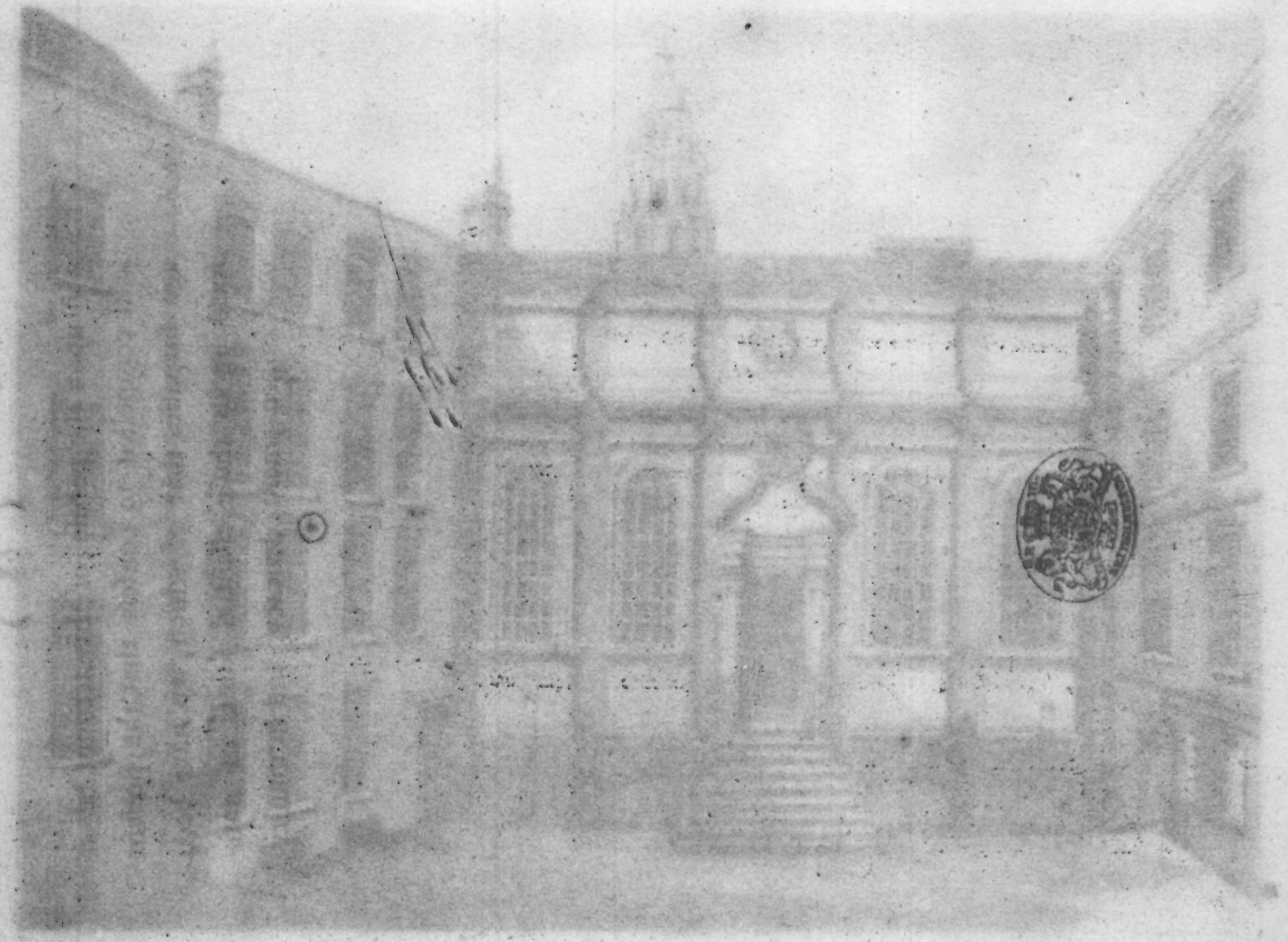
" This done, the Lord of Miſrule ad-
" dreſſeth himſelf to the banquet: which
" ended with ſome minſtrelſye, mirth, and
" dancing, every man departeth to reſt."

THE remaining days of Chriſtmas were celebrated in a ſimilar manner.

SUCH were the ridiculous amuſements of ſome of the moſt diſtinguiſhed characters in the kingdom in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The modern ſportſman will view with diſguſt, the cruelty and folly of a fox-chaſe in ſo confined a place as the Hall of the Inner Temple, and the wit will not feel much gratification in the groſs and ſenſeleſs alluſions of the Conſtable-Marſhall. To the antiquary, however, this recital of the cuſtoms and manners of old times may afford ſome degree of delight, and the rigid moraliſt who is daily complaining againſt a deterioration in the conduct of mankind,

will upon the perusal of this account be at leaſt compelled to confeſs that the preſent age ſurpaſſes that of which we have been ſpeaking in thoſe eſſential points of national improvement, delicacy, and humanity.

SECT.



J Ireland del

Clements Inn

Pub for J Ireland March 31 1799

SECT. IV.

CLEMENT'S INN.

THIS Inn is a modern plain ſtructure, and though ſmall, is yet preſerved extremely neat. It is one of the Inns of Chancery appertaining to the Inner Temple: according to the date over the entrance, the hall was built in 1715, at which time a Mr. Blackwell was the preſident, this gentleman's portrait hangs at the upper end of the hall, and is a reſpectable painted picture. There are five other portraits in this room, viz. Sir Matthew Hale and Sir Edward Coke, painted in 1613, both by the ſame hand, and if originals, are but indifferently executed. A three quarter portrait,

trait, painted in 1631 of Sir Thomas Rich, well executed, and I ſhould think original. A Lord Coventry, dated 1525, and a Lord Keeper Coventry, which hangs near it, are likewiſe well painted and have the appearance of being genuine.

Theſe decorate a well proportioned and convenient large parlour, about nineteen yards by nine, capable of affording to the gentlemen every accommodation either for buſineſs or conviviality.

Clement's Inn doubtleſs took its name from ſtanding near St. Clement's church, or St. Clement's well, and was an Inn of Chancery, or houſe wherein ſtudents of the law had reſidence, in king Edward the Fourth's time, as may ſeem by the book of entries, from the record of Mich. 19 E. IV. fol. 61. titulo miſnomer; where the defendant, to ſhew that he was not named of the

right

right place of his abode, pleaded thus " dicit, quod tempore impetrationis brevis, " fuit de hofpicio de Clements Inne, in " parochia S. Clementis Dacorum, extra " barram Novi Templi Lon. in comitatu " Middlefexiæ ; quod quidem hofpicium " eft, & tempore ante impetrationis bre- " vis, & diu ante, fuit quoddam hofpicium " hominum curæ legis temporalis, necnon " hominum confiliariorum ejufdem legis." Whofe inheritance this Inn anciently was, we cannot learn ; but in Hen. VII. Sir John Cantlowe, knight, by a leafe bearing date 20th December, in confideration of forty marks fine, and four pounds fix fhillings and eight pence yearly rent, demifed it for eighty years, unto William Elyot, and John Elyot, (in truft, as may be prefumed, for the ftudents of the law,) and about the 20th of Hen. VIII. (as I have heard,) Cantlowe's right and intereft therein was paffed to William Holles, citizen of London, (afterwards

wards knight and Lord Mayor of that city,) and from him deſcended to the right honourable John Earl of Clare, of whom this ſociety do hold it.—

This Inn has acquired no ſmall degree of celebrity, from the pen of our immortal bard, who in his pleaſant character of Maſter Shallow, and others of his merry aſſociates, has given us a pleaſant ſketch of the manners of the Inn at that time. For the entertainment of the reader we will quote the bard in his own words.

SIL. Good morrow, good couſin *Shallow.*

SHAL. And how doth my couſin, your bed-fellow, and your faireſt daughter, and mine, my god-daughter *Ellen?*

SIL. Alas, a black ouzel, couſin *Shallow.*

SHAL. By yea and nay, Sir, I dare ſay my couſin *William* is become a ſcholar: he is at *Oxford* ſtill, is he not? SIL.

SIL. Indeed Sir, to my coſt.

SHAL. He muſt then to the Inns of Court ſhortly: I was once of *Clement's Inn*; where, I think they will talk of mad *Shallow* yet.

SIL. You were called luſty *Shallow* then, couſin.

SHAL. I was called any thing; and I would have done any thing, indeed, too, and roundly too. There was I, and little *John Doit* of *Staffordſhire*, and black *George Bare*, and *Francis Pickbone*, and *Will Squele*, a *Cotſwold man*; you had not four ſuch ſwinge-bucklers in all the Inns of Court.

The black figure kneeling in the garden ſupporting a ſun-dial, was preſented to the Inn by Lord Clare, who brought it from Italy, as report affirms, near a century ago. It appears to be of bronze, but ſome ingenious perſons having determined on ma-

king it a black-a-moor, have in conſe-quence painted the figure of that colour.

We are led to conclude it has infinite me-rit, as the late ingenious Mr. Bacon applied to the ſociety for the uſe of it, merely to copy, which requeſt, we are concerned to ſay, was rather illiberally refuſed.

The view prefixed to this ſection, will, we flatter ourſelves, convey a very correct idea of the extreme neatneſs and elegance of the exterior appearance of this hall.

SECT.

S. Ireland. del.

Clifford's Inn.

Pubd for S Ireland March 31 1799

SECT. V.

CLIFFORD'S INN.

To this Inn there are three entrances, but that which immediately conducts to the hall, is a paſſage leading out of Fleet-ſtreet to the left of St. Dunſtan's church. Though ſmall, this Inn of Chancery is of very ancient ſtanding, and like the former, on which we treated in the laſt ſection, is dependent upon the Inner Temple. In ancient times it was the reſidence of one of the firſt, and proudeſt families in England, but from its preſent appearance, we ſhould imagine that in point of conſequence, it muſt have been conſiderably reduced ſince that period.

The hall, which has principally attracted

our attention in theſe reſearches, is in ſome meaſure built in the Gothic taſte; it is about thirty feet long, and twenty-four wide, being proportionably lofty to its dimenſions. The windows of which there are three to the north and ſouth ſides, are arched in the ancient ſtyle of architecture; thoſe to the ſouth, have each a coat of arms in painted glaſs, one repreſenting the bearings of Edward the Confeſſor. The caſements on the garden ſide contain fifteen armorial bearings, among which are thoſe of Baptiſt Hicks, Viſcount Camden, Thomas Bromley, in 1580, and ſeveral other names familiar to us in the records of ancient times: In one of the windows alſo appears conſpicuous the emblazoned arms of England.

To the left of the entrance there is hanging up in this hall an old oak caſe, opening with two folding doors, within which the ancient inſtitutions of the ſociety

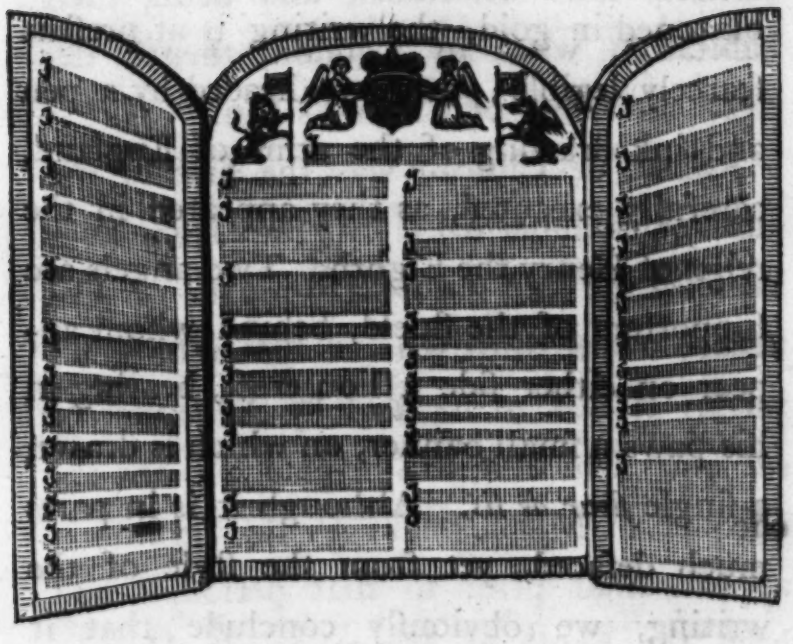
are

are preſerved: they are written on vellum, and conſiſt of forty ſeven items, but except the capital letters, which were formerly emblazoned in gold, the writing is at preſent ſcarcely legible; they are headed by a pen and ink drawing of the arms of England, carefully executed, as they appeared in the reign of Henry the Eighth. Two angels are ſupporters of the ſhield, behind whom appear on either ſide a lion erect, bearing in his paws a ſmall banner, on which is drawn a ſingle *fleur de lis*. Although it is in parts much defaced, yet from the ſtyle of the writing, we obviouſly conclude that it muſt have been executed in the reign above mentioned.

This piece of antiquity is about two feet and a quarter high, by one and a quarter wide. In the annexed wood cut is a faithful repreſentation of this relic, which we conceive well worth preſerving, particularly

as

as the original is at preſent in a ſtate of decay.



By the date 1771, on the turret, the period may be aſcertained when this hall was repaired, though the Gothic ſtone entrance to the cellars beneath, bears evident teſtimony of the remote period of its firſt foundation. We ſhall now advert to the antiquity of this hall agreably to the ancient records, which relate to its original grant.

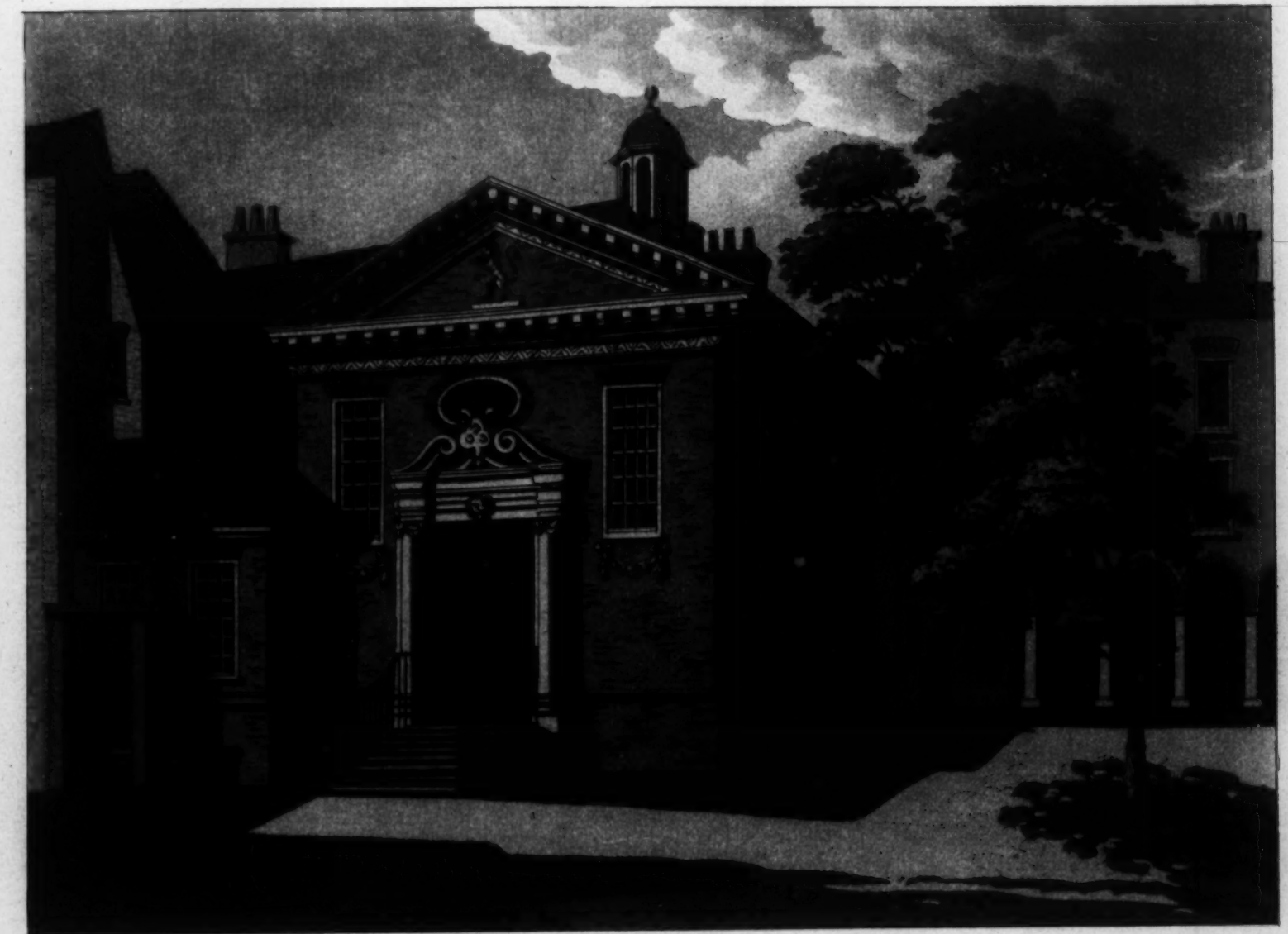
Clifford's

Clifford's Inn was formerly in the poſſeſſion of the noble family of the Barons Clifford, from whom the Earls of Cumberland were deſcended, and being their habitation when in London, thence derived the name of Clifford's Inn.

Robert de Clifford was the firſt of the family that inherited it by grant from king Edward the II. the twenty-fourth of February in the third year of that monarch's reign: It was to be held by the ſervice of *one penye*, which was to be paid into the exchequer at Michaelmas: by this grant, it appears that prior to that period it had been the houſe of Malculine de Harley, Eſcheator to King Edward the I. on this ſide the river Trent, and came into that king's hands for certain debts due to him from the ſaid Malculine. After the death of Robert de Clifford, Iſabella his widow demiſed it in the eighteenth of Edward the Third to the ſtudents of the law, (apprenticiis

ticiis de banco are the words of the record) for the yearly rent of ten pounds, ſo that ſince that period, firſt by leaſe, and afterwards by a grant in fee ferm to Nicholas Sulyard, eſq. principal of this houſe, Nicholas Guybon, Robert Clinche, and other the then ſeniors thereof, in conſideration of ſix hundred pounds and the rent of four pounds per annum, as we are informed, it has ſince continued a receptacle for gentlemen of the law and been ſtiled an Inn of Chancery.

SECT.



S Ireland del.t

Lions Inn.

Pub. for S. Ireland March 31 1799

SECT. VI.

LION'S INN.

ON the ſubject of Lion's Inn all hiſtorians remain ſilent.

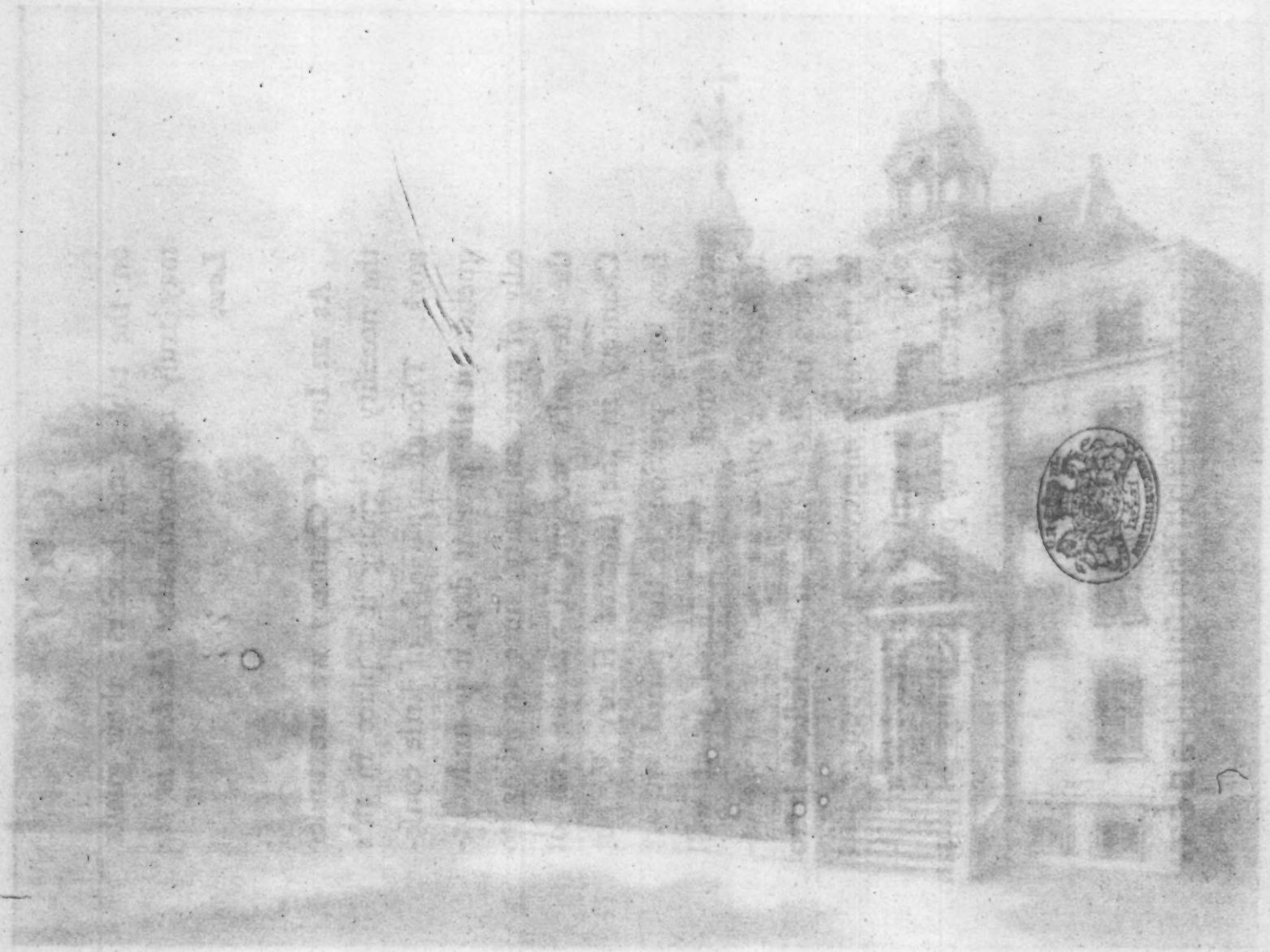
In paſſing through this thoroughfare, we were ſtruck with the appearance of the hall, which externally preſents a degree of neatneſs and uniformity. It was erected in 1700, but has no one internal circumſtance but filth to recommend it to our notice, ſince the uſe of *mops* and *brooms* ſeem to have been totally unknown to the directors of this Inn.

When the doors were opened, we were much ſurprized on a ſlight view of the hall, to find *a brood of chickens* feeding

on the tables and benches: theſe gueſts may truly be denominated *Chickens in the Law.*

As an Inn of Chancery we are under the neceſſity of giving it a place in this work. Though apparently of little conſequence in the preſent day, it is undoubtedly of great antiquity, ſince according to the ſteward's account, it was an Inn of Chancery in the time of Henry V. but how long, previous to that period, we are not informed. The annexed print will if neceſſary, prove an apology for its inſertion in this work, as we believe it to be the only engraving now extant of this edifice, and it muſt be conſidered as an illuſtration to the public buildings of the city.

SECT.



S. Ireland del.ª

North fr.t of Temple Hall.

Pub.d for S. Ireland March 31. 1799.

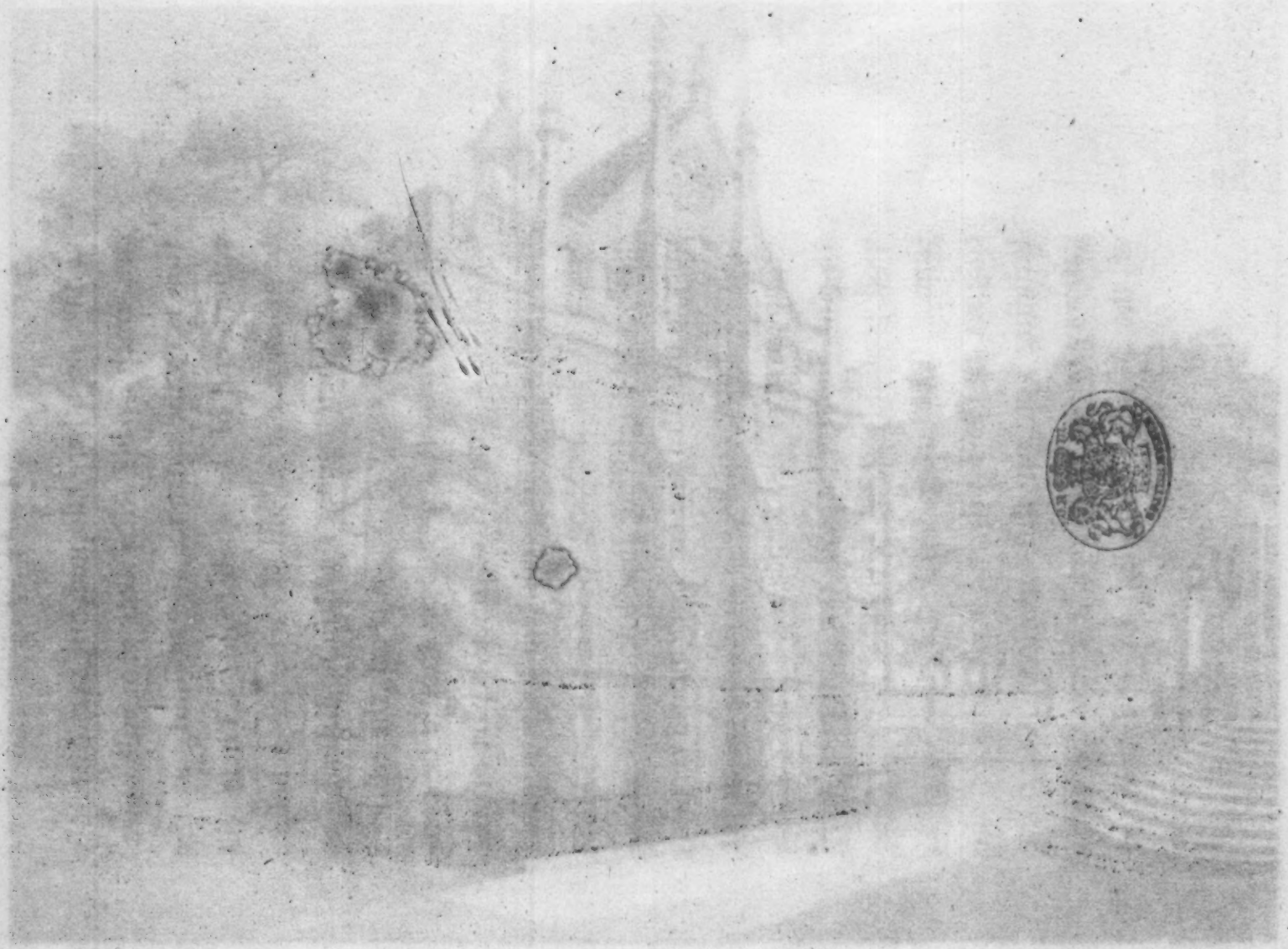
SECT. VII.

MIDDLE TEMPLE HALL

THIS noble ſtructure, like many of our public buildings, without any juſt cauſe, ſeems aſhamed of ſhewing itſelf till you come cloſe upon it; and it is owing to a ſimilar obſcurity of ſituation that ſo many of our architectural deſigns appear heavy and diſproportioned, as it is impoſſible for the artiſt without ſpace, (let his powers be what they may,) to judge fairly of the general effect of his work. The edifice before us, is however externally a good ſpecimen of the mode of building of the period at which it was erected, and we have only to regret the deſtruction of ſymetry in its general effect, by the injudicious additions of ſome modern bungler. We ſhould be ſorry to add the name of Gibbs to ſuch alterations

as have been here adopted, but they certainly are much in his ſtile. Our principle objection is to the entrance and building at the eaſtern end of the north front. Theſe will be at once diſtinguiſhed in the view before us, as an heterogenous addition, differing at once from every other part of the edifice: ſuch injudicious appendages ſhould be conſidered as a groſs error on the part of the architect, as it muſt produce, let the original deſign of the building be better or worſe, a motly and diſguſting appearance. In conformity to this idea, the entrance ſhould certainly have been analogous in character to the other parts of the ſtructure. The coignes of the buttreſſes and the parapets were moſt probably added or repaired at the ſame time. The irregularity of the original coignes on the ſouth and weſt ſides of the building confirm this opinion. Over the gateway on entering the hall are the arms of the Middle Temple. In the annexed

view



S Ireland del.

S.W. View of Middle Temple Hall.

Pub for S Ireland March 31 1799.

view of the weſt end of this hall, the pinnacles will be found to exhibit another barbariſm of ſtyle, nearly as far removed from the general character of this Gothic ornament, as the north entrance upon which we have juſt remarked. The ſouth front not having undergone the leaſt alteration or repair, is in conſequence the moſt uniformly correct. The contraſt of the modern flight of ſteps by which we are led into garden-court, forms no unpleaſing part in the general view; to judge properly of this landſcape it ſhould be ſurveyed from the adjoining garden, where the Gothic arches receiving luſtre from the painted windows, happily break through the ſpaces between the trees in the front of the edifice, and every object combines to produce a ſublime and pictureſque effect.

On entering this magnificent hall, the eye of the curious is naturally attracted and

receives

receives every gratification from an aſſemblage of the beſt diſpoſed parts in the Gothic ſtyle of building, that could have been ſelected, and which are preſerved with a degree of care and attention highly creditable to the members of this honorable ſociety. The length of this noble room including the paſſage is about one hundred feet, the width about forty. The height of the roof which is of oak highly wrought, is well proportioned to the general dimenſions of the building and leaves the eye of the critical obſerver perfectly ſatisfied. The roof conſiſts of eight principal rafters projecting from the ſide walls to ſupport it, they reach the ſummit by three different curves, are richly carved and moulded, and have at the extremity of each curve a bold pendant ornament.

There are alſo Gothic ribs ſpringing from each of the principle rafters, that give a richneſs

richneſs to the whole of the deſign. The ſpacious windows riſing between each rafter, are decorated with coats of arms, in ſtained glaſs, of the various noblemen and gentlemen who have been members of this honorable ſociety. The rebuilding of this elegant ſtructure was begun in the year 1562, when the celebrated Plowden was conſtituted treaſurer for this work: it was finiſhed in 1572, four years after he quitted that office, but he voluntarily conſented to ſuperintend it till it was compleated. At the weſt end of this elegant hall is a ſpacious Gothic window decorated in the ſame ſtyle with thoſe preceding, beneath which are ſeveral whole length portraits in oil, as large as life, viz. in the center, Charles I. on horſeback, with his page holding his helmet, Charles II. and queen Ann on his right, and William III. and George I. on his left.

The portrait of Charles I. is undoubtedly

edly a copy after Van Dyke, which I had been informed, and that with an air of authority, was a performance of Sir Peter Lely, but on looking close into the picture, the touch and manner have nothing of that elegant and free style of penciling for which that great artist was so justly admired.—I should rather suppose it to have come from the hand of old Stone, who copied him frequently, yet never could attain the manner of his admired original, but always adopted a sombre and heavy tint by which his pictures may be easily distinguished. His companions the kings and queens who surround him have nothing but their robes of royal velvet to recommend them.

Over the passage-entrance, is a handsome space allotted for the purposes of a music gallery, the use of which has long been discontinued: this gallery is equal in width to the hall, and about nine

nine feet deep; it is decorated with various pieces of armour, conſiſting of breaſt-plates, helmets, &c. which, though evidently not more ancient than the time of Charles II. ignorance and a love for the marvellous has, in the opinion of many, carried them back to the time of the Knights Templars, whom, they inſiſted, wore theſe identical pieces. In the ſeventeenth of Elizabeth, the ſcreen beneath this gallery was erected. It is very richly carved in oak, with no regularity of order or ſtyle, but is in a kind of mongrel Gothic. It is ſupported by ſix Doric fluted pillars, an order very much in uſe at that period."

BENEATH the windows on each ſide of the hall, are ranged in ſmall compartments in oak, the arms and names of the various readers, from Richard Swaine, in 1597, to the preſent period; they are ſtill annually

 elected,

elected, and the place is preſerved, but the lectures have long ſince been diſcontinued. Of the nature and duties attendant on the office of reader, we have treated at length in our deſcription of the Temple; and it may perhaps not prove unentertaining to add ſomething farther on thoſe cuſtoms, as they were obſerved in this ſociety.

THE readers are annually choſen by the Bench at their parliament-meeting on Friday before the feaſt of All Saints; and the parties ſo choſen are generally the two ancient cup-board men. They are the next day called to the bench-table, where they thenceforward take their commons, and beſtow upon the reſt of the benchers a certain portion of wine for their firſt welcome. Thoſe who are put by their readings, are removed to the ancients table, where they alſo give a garniſh of wine for their welcome; and they are thenceforth freed

freed from all mootes and exercifes in the houſe, and likewiſe from the ceremony of *walking the old meaſures*, about the hall, at the times accuſtomed.

It may not be unentertaining to advert to the regulations in dreſs, that took place in this ſociety, in the reign of Philip and Mary.

In the fourth year of that reign it was ordered, that none of this ſociety ſhould thenceforth wear any great bryches in their hoſes, made after the Dutch, Spaniſh, or Almon faſhion; or lawnde upon their capps, or cut doublets, upon pain of three ſhillings and fourpence forfeiture for the firſt default, and the ſecond time to be expelled the houſe. And in the 26th Elizabeth, the following orders for apparel were made.

1 That no great ruff ſhould be worn.

2 Nor any white color in doublets or hoſen.

3 Nor any facing of velvet in gownes, but by ſuch as were of the bench.

4 That no gentleman ſhould walk in the ſtreets in their cloaks, but in gownes.

5 That no hat, or long, or curled hayr be worn.

6 Nor any gownes, but ſuch as were of a ſad color.

" In Charles I. reign, many regulations were made for the good government of the ſociety of the Middle Temple, viz. that no foreigner or other, not of the ſocieties, ſhall be permitted to lodge there, that no common attorney or ſolicitor be admitted, no utter barriſter publicly to practice at any bar

bar at Weſtminſter, till he have been three years at the bar; and that none be admitted to the bar, under eight years continuance, and who have kept exerciſes in the houſe, and at the Inns of Chancery, according to the orders of the houſe."

THERE are no lands nor revenues belonging to this houſe, to induce or encourage the ſtudent to ſtudy by means of a ſtipend or ſalary: which, ſays an old writer quaintly on the ſubject, " is the occa-
" ſion that many a good wit, for lack of
" exhibition, is compelled to give over and
" forſake ſtudy, before he have any perfyte
" knowledge in the law, and to fall to prac-
" tiſing, and become a typler in the law." From the following remark of the ſame author, we may fairly preſume, that at the time of which he ſpeaks, the Inns of Court were by no means calculated for the ſtudy of the law. The ſtudents, he obſerves,

" have

" have for the moſt part their ſtudies and
" places of learning, ſo ſet that they are
" much troubled with the noiſe of walk-
" ing, and communication of them that be
" no learners; and in term time, they are
" ſo unquieted by clyents, and ſervants of
" clyents that reſort to ſuch as are attor-
" neys and practiſing, that the ſtudents
" may as quietly ſtudy in the open ſtreets
" as in their ſtudies. They likewiſe com-
" plain that they have no place to walk in,
" and talk and confer on their learnings,
" but in the church, which place all the
" term times, hath in it no more quietneſs
" than the pervyſe (purlieus) of Pawles,
" by occaſion of the confluence of ſuch as
" are ſuiters in the law."

A TREASURER is yearly choſen by the elders of the houſe, who admit into the fellowſhip ſuch as they may think proper, to gather

gather the yearly penſions and rents, and to pay all ſums due from the ſociety, &c. &c.

THE ancient cuſtom of receiving ſuch judges and ſerjeants at law as have belonged to this ſociety, is ſomewhat curious and merits a place in this work.

" ON the feaſt day of All Saints, after the two readers are choſen, as aforeſaid, the judges and ſerjeants are waited upon at their chambers by two ancient barriſters of the ſociety to invite them to their feaſts.

" THE judges and ſerjeants attend, and before they take their places, two ancient utter barriſters are appointed to wait on them, with baſons and ewers of ſweet water for the waſhing of their hands, and two other like ancient barriſters with towels. The readers are bound to give their attendance to meet the judges, &c. at the lower end of the hall,

and

and to conduct them upwards. One of them, the ancient, bearing a white ſtaff in his hand, the other a white rod, uſhering in the meat and following the muſic. At theſe ſolemn feaſts, the meat is brought to the table by the young gentlemen under the bar; one of the new readers receiving every diſh from the gentleman who carried it, and placing it with due care on the table, while the other waits on the judges; and during the feaſt they both with ſolemn curteſies, welcome both the judges and ſerjeants. Dinner being ended, they wait on them, uſhering them either into the garden or ſome other retiring place, until the hall be cleanſed and prepared; and then they are again uſhered into the hall, and placed in their rooms one after another. This being done the ancient of the two that hath the ſtaff in his hand, ſtands at the upper end of the bar-table; and the other with the white rod placeth himſelf at the cupboard

in

in the middle of the hall, oppoſite to the judges, where the muſic being begun, he calleth twice the maſter of the revels; and at the ſecond call, the ancient, with his white ſtaff advanceth forward, and begins to lead the meaſures; followed firſt by the barriſters, and then the gentlemen under the bar, all according to their ſeveral antiquities; and when one meaſure is ended, the reader at the cupboard calls for another, and ſo in order. All thoſe who are in commons under the degree of bencher, are not to abſent themſelves from theſe ſolemn revels, under the forfeit of three ſhillings and fourpence; and thoſe of the bar who are ſhewn to carry up wafers on grand days to the judges, and refuſe, forfeit ten ſhillings; and the barriſters that refuſe to carry up bread and beer to the maſter of the bench, ſix and eightpence.

" When the laſt meaſure is dancing, the

reader at the cupboard calls to one of the gentlemen of the bar, as he is walking or dancing with the reſt, to give the judge a ſong, who forthwith begins the firſt line of any pſalm as he thinks fitteſt; after which all the reſt of the company follow and ſing with him. Whilſt they are thus walking and ſinging, the reader with the white rod departs from the cupboard, and makes his choice of a competent number of utter-barriſters, and as many under the bar, whom he takes into the buttery; where there is delivered unto every barriſter a towel with wafers in it, and unto every gentleman under the bar, a wooden bowl filled with ipocras, with which they march in order into the hall, the reader with his white rod going foremoſt. And when they come near to the half pace, oppoſite to the judges, the company divide themſelves; the one half ſtanding on one ſide of the reader, the other on the other ſide; and then

then after a low ſolemn congee made, the gentlemen of the bar firſt carry the wafers, the reſt with the new reader ſtanding in their places. At their return they all make another ſolemn low congee; and then the gentlemen under the bar, carry their bowls of ipocras to the judges, and returning, when the judges have drank, they make the ſolemn congee, and ſo all depart, ſaving the new readers elect, who wait upon the judges until their departure; and then uſher them down the hall unto the court-gate, where they take their leave of them. Theſe grand feaſts given to the judges and ſerjeants, are held twice in the year, viz. on All Saints and Candlemas Days. The expence of them is ſupported by the gentlemen of the houſe in their commons; no one to be exempt, if he be within the city, though not in commons; for in ſuch caſe he is called *viſus* in *villa*, and ſhall

pay half that week's commons wherein the feaſt-day happens, though he take none."

Besides theſe ſolemn revels, or meaſures aforeſaid, they had wont to be entertained with poſt-revels, performed by the beſt ſort of the young gentlemen of the ſociety, at the beginning and end of the Chriſtmas holidays. They conſiſted of galliards, corrantees, and other dances; or elſe with ſtage-plays. Theſe poſt-revels have long been diſuſed, both at this and other Inns of Court.

We cannot quit this venerable and magnificent ſtructure, without expreſſing the ſatisfaction we receive on its happy eſcape from the conflagration of fire, that took place and devaſtated its whole vicinity in the reign of Charles II.

THE LIBRARY.

THIS building was erected, as appears from the date over the door of the ſtaircaſe, in the year 1625. It contains a ſmall number of ancient books: they were the bequeſt of Sir Robert Aſhley, in the year 1641. The picture which hangs at the end of the room poſſeſſes ſome merit; and was by the late Sir William Muſgrave ſuppoſed to be the portrait of Sir Robert Aſhley: it is now much neglected. The library contains two globes, curious on account of their antiquity, being made in the reign of Elizabeth. To the lawyer of deep reſearch, theſe volumes may perhaps afford much gratification; but the caſual obſerver cannot fail to remark, from their extreme dirtineſs, that they have been little peruſed in the preſent æra.

S Ireland del.t

New Inn

Pub. for S. Ireland March 21 1800

SECT. VIII.

NEW INN.

THIS houſe was formerly a common *Hoſtery*, or *Inne for Travailers*, and was known by the ſign of the Bleſſed Virgin, and called Our Lady's Inn.

STOWE mentions, in vol. ii. p. 113, that the ſtudents of Strand Inn ſettled themſelves—or as Pennant more quaintly expreſſes it, "Neſtled themſelves in New "Inn, when Strand Inn was pulled down "in the reign of Edward VI. for the re-"building Somerſet palace."

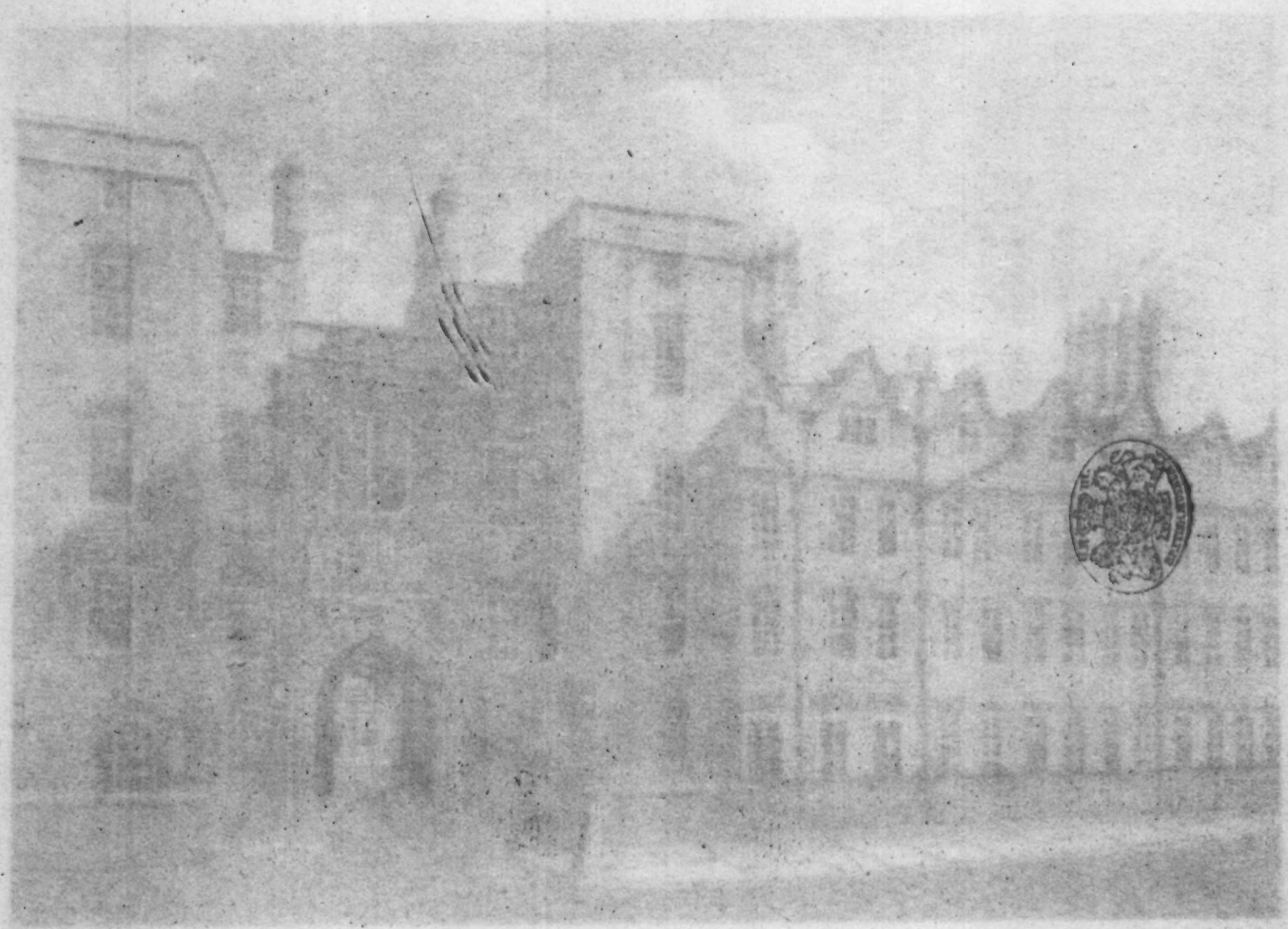
NEW INN was procured from Sir John Fineux,

Fineux, knight, ſometime lord chief juſtice of the King's-Bench, at the rent of ſix pounds per annum. This Inn is ſmall; but the garden being neatly preſerved, and its junction with that of Clement's Inn, gives it an appearance of greater conſequence than it could otherwiſe challenge. The hall is modern, and tolerably well proportioned for its ſize; which, although ſmall, is apparently too large for the ſociety; as, within theſe few years, two commodious rooms have been added for more domeſtic and ſocial purpoſes: the bow-windows of theſe apartments, projecting into the garden, give them a cool and pleaſant appearance. This Inn forms a great thoroughfare into Clare-Market and its vicinity.

THE moſt remarkable circumſtance relative to this Inn, and that which redounds to its honor, is the having had the credit of Sir Thomas More, as a ſtudent, in the reign of

of Henry the VIIth. before he entered as a fellow of Lincoln's Inn.

In the foregoing ſections we have adverted to the ceremony of mootyng, a cuſtom long ſince in diſuſe except in *this* Inn; where about a year and a half ſince, we are informed, a mootyng took place, to the no ſmall diverſion of the paſſers by; who, from the geſticulation of the head, and tremulous motion of the impaſſioned gentlemen then mootyng, began to conjecture that ſome dangerous malady had ſeized on the members of the Inn, particularly the ancients.



S. Ireland del.

Lincolns Inn gate.

Pub. for S. Ireland March 3. 1800

SECT. IX.

LINCOLN'S INN GATE, &c.

THIS venerable ſtructure forms the grand entrance to Lincoln's Inn from Chancery Lane; or, as it was originally called, Chancellour's Lane, from the office of the rolls being ſituated there. This gateway conſiſts of two wings, or ſquare towers, with a handſome ſtone arch in the centre, in the Gothic ſtyle. The building is of black or dark grey bricks, interſecting each other nearly at right angles.

OVER the gateway are three circular compartments, containing in the centre the arms of England, encircled with the garter and its motto: "*Honi ſoit qui mal y penſe.*"

THE arms, on the dexter ſide, are thoſe of Lacy, earl of Lincoln; and, on the ſiniſter, thoſe of Sir Thomas Lovell, knight of the garter. On a label beneath, in Arabic characters, is inſcribed Anno Dom. 1518.

THE annexed wood-cut will give a faithful repreſentation of the arms above mentioned.

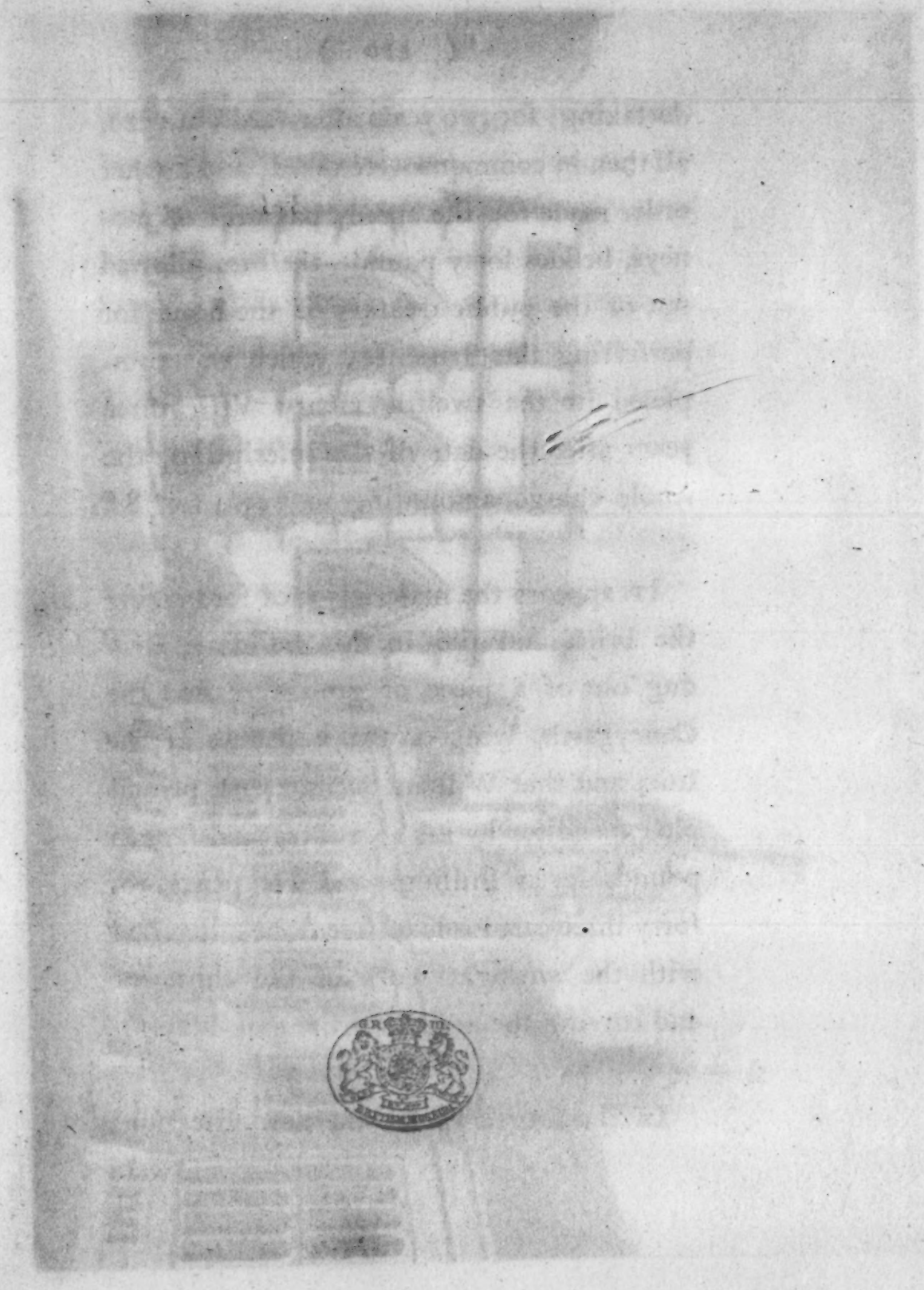
OVER this entrance Oliver Cromwell is reported to have had chambers. By the regiſter of the Inn, this gateway appears to have been begun ſeveral years before the above

above date; for it is there recorded that, " the hall was finiſhed in the twenty-ſe- " cond Henry VII. and in the following year " they began to make bricks, and to con- " tract with maſons for the ſtone work of " another fabric, viz. the great gate-houſe " tower, unto which Sir Thomas Lovell, " formerly a member of this ſociety, but " then treaſurer of the houſehold to king " Henry VII. was a good benefactor. The " timber for this purpoſe was brought by " water from Henley upon Thames." In the twenty-fourth Henry VII. they finiſhed the library, " as may appear by the charge in " ſeeling of it; but the work of the gate- " tower went ſlowly enough on; for till " the ninth of Henry VIII. (the date of the " inſcription above) when Sir Thomas Lo- " vell gave more money to forward it, no " more mention is made of it." This bounty appears to have excited emulation in the reſt of the ſociety to finiſh this undertaking;

dertaking; for two years afterwards, in 1520, all then in commons were taxed; and farther order made for the ſpeedy payment of moneys, beſides forty pounds, the ſum allowed out of the publie treaſury of the houſe for perfecting this ſtructure; which was completed in the twelfth Henry VIII. three years after the date of the inſcription, the whole charge amounting to *153l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

It appears the materials uſed for making the brick and tile in this building, were dug out of a piece of ground called the Coneygarth, lying on the weſt ſide of the Inn; and that William Sultard then principle expenditor by his accounts, paid ſixteen pounds ſeven ſhillings and five pence, for forty three cart-loads of free ſtone; together with the wrought work of the chimnies, and carving the arms over the gate-way.

In the fourth Elizabeth, new directions were



S. Ireland del.t

Lincolns Inn Hall & Chapel.

Pub. for S. Ireland March 31 1800.

were given for making three thouſand more bricks from the ſame ſpot; and Mr. Newdigate a member of the ſociety was appointed ſurveyor thereof; and ten ſhillings was allowed to the panyerman in reſpect of his loſs of the herbage of that place by reaſon of this brickmaking. Theſe bricks, it appears, were made for the purpoſe of building a wall along the garden front towards Chancery Lane, which before was formed of clay. In the 34th of this reign, an order was paſſed in council for paving Chancery Lane with ſtone; the expence of which, as far as concerned this houſe and garden, amounted to forty-ſix pounds.

On entering the grand arch, the venerable buildings of the hall and chapel cannot fail to ſtrike the attention of the antiquary; although it muſt be confeſſed they are both deficient in thoſe elegancies and enrich-

enrichments, that conſtitute the grandeur of our moſt admired Gothic ſtructures.

The chapel is from a deſign of Inigo Jones: it appears from the regiſter of the Inn, that on the 22d of June, in the eighth of James, it was ordered that the old chapel, being then in a ruinous ſtate and not large enough for the ſociety, ſhould be pulled down, and that a new one ſhould be erected in the court where it ſtood: the adjacent chambers northward were all built about the ſame period. Notwithſtanding this order, it does not appear that any thing further was done towards rebuilding the hall till 15th of James; when Mr. Spencer, Mr. Waltham, Mr. Selwyn, Mr. Brooke, Mr. Pyne, Mr. Wanderford, and Mr. Sanderſon, or any two of them, were, by an order of their council, appointed to conſider of materials for this chapel,

and

and the model thereof was recommended to Inigo Jones, the king's ſurveyor-general, who having made a draft of it, eſtimated the charge of the ſame at 2000*l.*

TOWARDS defraying this expence, twenty-two of the benchers ſubſcribed 186*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* and the year following, to complete the ſum, it was agreed and ordered, that each of the maſters of the bench and aſſociates, ſhould pay twenty pounds; every perſon at the bar of ſeven years ſtanding twenty nobles; and each of the bar under that time five pounds; and each gentleman of the houſe under the bar forty ſhillings. Further voluntary contributions being made to the ſums, the building went on, was finiſhed within the ſpace of five years, and was conſecrated on Aſcenſion Day, 1623, by George Mountain, biſhop of London.

DR. John Donne, dean of St. Paul's

preached the ſermon on this text: "Facta "ſunt autem encænia Hieroſolomis & "hyems erat & ambulabat Jeſus in Templa "in portico ſalomonis." John, chap. v. and x.

THIS chapel has recently undergone a thorough repair, under the conduct of one of our moſt ſkilful and juſtly eſteemed architects; but whether from reſpect to its ancient deſign, or in conformity to the inſtruction he may have received from his employer, we are ſorry to add, that he has left it defective in point of ornament. The parapat wall is ponderous in the extreme; and the neceſſity for raiſing the ground above the baſe of this building, has, by lowering the height of the cloyſter, deſtroyed, in a great meaſure, the effect of the moſt beautiful part of it. Theſe cloyſters are regularly divided, and conſiſt of ſix Gothic groined arches, which, though rather a flat curve,

curve, appear elegant; they are highly enriched with Gothic ribs, cloſely interſecting each other; and at theſe interſections are embelliſhed with roſes, ſhields, and various cluſtered decorations. The ſpace between the bands which ſpring from the piers, is enriched with Gothic *tracorie*, which adds much to the general effect. We by no means approve of the modern introduction of the Tuſcan pillar to ſupport theſe groined arches; but we commend the additional iron railing to incloſe this ſtructure, which gives ſecurity and preſervation to this moſt ſtriking part of it. Within this cloyſter was interred Thurleo, ſecretary of ſtate to Oliver Cromwell; on a flat ſtone is this inſcription:

Here lyes the Body
of John Thurleo
Eſqr. Secretary of State
to the Protector Oliver
Cromwell & A Member
of the Honble. Society. He
Dyed Feby. 27th. 1667
Here alſo lyeth the Body
of Francis Brace, Eſqr.
a member of this Society.
He was the Son of Francis
Brace late of the Town of
Bedford by Ann one of the
Daughters and Coheirs
of the ſaid John Thurleo
He dyed on the 6th. Day
of April 1724 in the 34th
Year of his age.

On the firſt view, the inſide of this chapel appears to want length, and to be liable to the ſame objection which prevails againſt the exterior. In ſome inſtances ſimplicity conſtitutes elegance; but in Gothic productions we are totally of a different opinion. I ſhould conceive the *ſombre* gloom, produced by the windows, which

are

are of ſtained glaſs, muſt, even to the warmeſt admirers of monaſtic inſtitutions, appear unpleaſant: in ſome of theſe hiſtorical decorations there is undoubtedly much merit; they conſiſt of ſaints and apoſtles, many of them in appropriate and becoming attitudes; but we do not think either the drawing or character generally well managed.

BENEATH theſe figures, and in the grand eaſt window, are various coats of arms, well executed in modern ſtained glaſs; and among them we obſerved thoſe of the earls of Southampton, Pembroke, Bridgwater, Carliſle, Le De Spencer, Abergavenny, &c. &c. and of the various treaſurers and members of this honorable ſociety.

ON the abſurd introduction of thoſe unnatural beings, compoſed of the heads and wings of angels, which ſupport the ribs of the

the ceiling, we cannot help remarking, that however agreeable they may have been to the fashion of early times, we think them highly offensive to the taste of this more enlightened period.

The pulpit and decorations of this chapel, are quite inconsistent with the style of the building; and exhibit incongruity, too often to be met with in modern additions to ancient churches.

Lincoln's Inn Hall was finished in the twenty-second year of the reign of Henry VIII.; of the outside we must observe that it is in a state of decay; in other respects it can scarcely be considered an object worthy of criticism. The principal part of it is cased with stone, particularly the coigns; the roof is in a sharp pitch and cumbrous in the extreme; the turrets above are of timber and covered with lead;

the

the ſmaller one appears to be coeval with the more ancient parts of the building, and was, according to the regiſter of the Inn, thus deſcribed; as "the loover or lanthorn "ſet up in the ſixth of Edward VI. and "the charge accounted for carpenter's work "and timber, 45*s.* ſmith for the vane, 8*s.* "the gilding thereof, 11*s.* plumber's work, "7*l.* 10*s.* glazier's work, 31*s.*" The arms on the lead are thoſe of Lacy, earl of Lincoln, with Quincy and the earl of Cheſter; the date 1682, the period when the whole underwent a thorough repair.

FROM the interior of this hall, which is ſpacious and well proportioned, we received a higher gratification than from its exterior. The roof, as it now appears, being plaiſtered, is certainly of more modern date than the other parts of the building; and we have no doubt but that it was originally conſtructed of oak.

IT

It is an elliptical form, with pointed groined interſections ſpringing from the piers, encloſing an elliptical arch over each of the three centre windows.

At the extremities of this hall, are complete Gothic arched windows, in receſſes evidently as ancient as its foundation. In the front of theſe receſſes are moulded ribs, ſpringing from heads, of the groteſque kind, in the ſtyle of architecture of the period at which it was erected.

The windows are decorated with coats of arms, in ſtained glaſs, of the many dignified characters who have belonged to, and by their abilities conferred honor on, this ſociety.

Viewing the hall from the juſtice-ſeat, the ſcreen at the lower end, which was added in the ſixth of Elizabeth, has every

characteriſtic feature of the buildings of that period; and except its eccentric decorations and maſſiveneſs, it has not any thing ſtriking to arreſt your attention.

The ornaments of the clock are uncouth and inconſiſtent, and may be conſidered as objects to excite laughter rather than admiration.

It would be highly remiſs in us to take leave of this hall, without making ſome remark on the production of our excellent painter Hogarth; although, it is confeſſed, that hiſtorical compoſition was not the *forte* of this celebrated artiſt; yet, even in this walk of the profeſſion, he muſt be allowed to have attained to much excellence. But admitting, for the ſake of argument, that he was, as ſome critics contend, peculiarly unhappy in ſubjects of this nature, Hogarth does not ſtand alone; for even among

the avowed profeſſors in that line, I venture to pronounce that there are very few indeed, and thoſe not till of late years, who have, ſince Sir James Thornhill, arrived at much excellence, in that firſt branch of the art of hiſtorical painting: the cauſe may be, that the taſte of the country does not tend to its encouragement.

It cannot be ſaid that national incidents have not afforded matter for the pencil of the artiſt; ſince no country has ever exhibited more eminent inſtances of patriotic magnanimity.

This picture, by Mr. Hogarth, was hung up in 1750; and appears to have been provided for the hall, by a legacy of the late Mr. Wyndham. The ſubject is the apoſtle St. Paul before Felix; about which much abuſe hath been levelled, and much criticiſm exerted. The general group-

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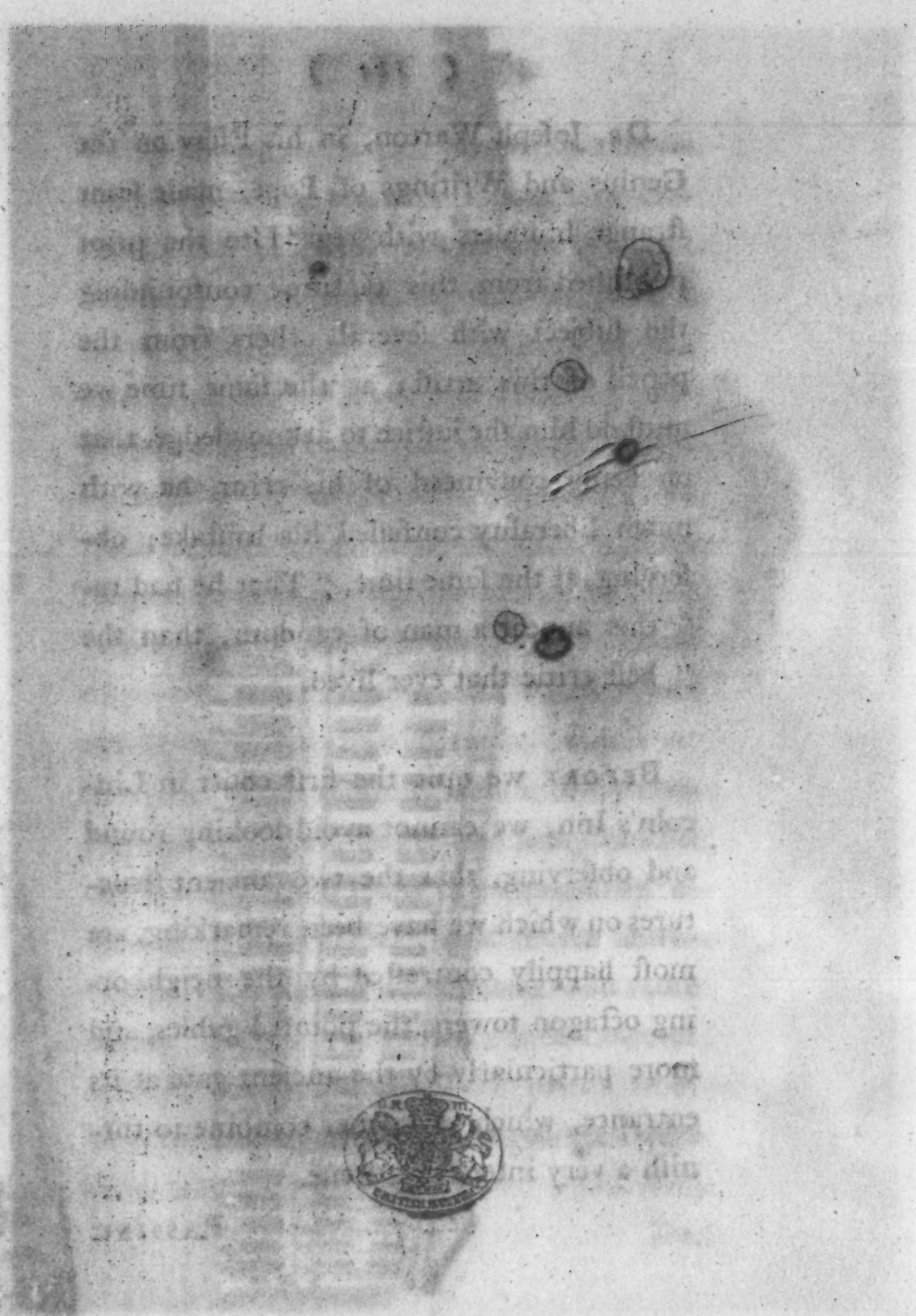
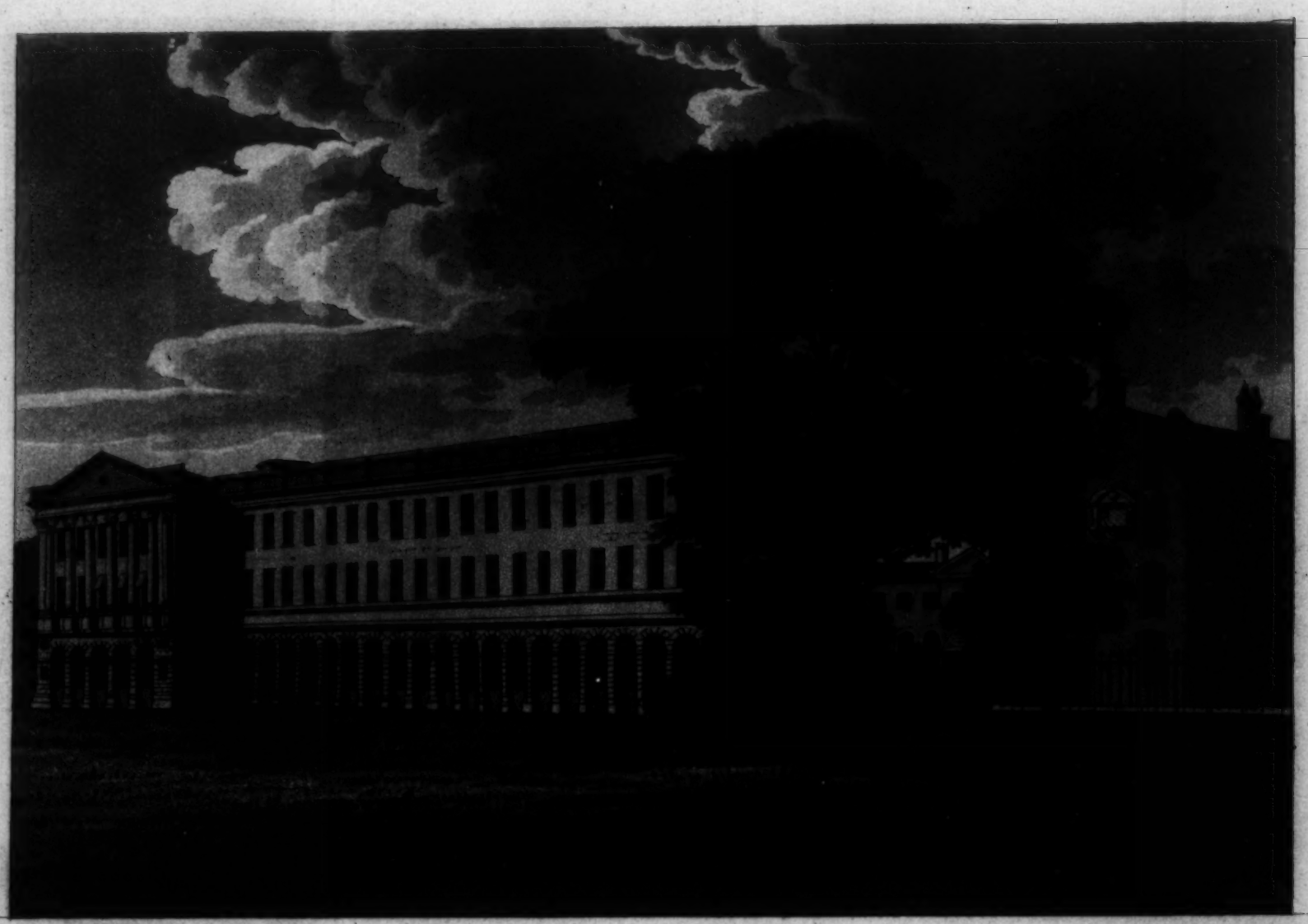
ing of the figures is not ill, nor is that of the apoſtle ungraceful. The pitiful critique, that his hand was improperly placed before Druſilla, the wife of Felix, would never have entered into the head of the moſt rigid caviller, had it not been a moſt prevalent opinion, that Hogarth never could be ſerious on any ſubject whatever; we muſt candidly ſay, that though we have frequently viewed the picture, in the full recollection of this remark, yet the effect of it was never forcibly felt, whether the artiſt conſidered this criticiſm as juſt or not. One of the greateſt faults in the painting is the *ſombre*, or rather black tints in the ſhadowy parts; a ſtyle of colouring inconſiſtent with nature, and never introduced by Hogarth in his ſmaller and more highly finiſhed productions; it is however certain, that in one of the prints from this picture, he totally expunged the figure of Druſilla.

Dr. Joſeph Warton, in his Eſſay on the Genius and Writings of Pope, made ſome ſtrange blunders with regard to the print publiſhed from this picture; confounding the ſubject with ſeveral others from the pencil of this artiſt; at the ſame time we muſt do him the juſtice to acknowledge, that on being convinced of his error, he with much liberality confeſſed his miſtake; obſerving, at the ſame time, "That he had ra-" ther appear a man of candour, than the " beſt critic that ever lived."

Before we quit the firſt court in Lincoln's Inn, we cannot avoid looking round and obſerving, that the two ancient ſtructures on which we have been remarking, are moſt happily contraſted by the neighboring octagon towers, the pointed gables, and more particularly by the ancient gate at its entrance, which altogether combine to furniſh a very intereſting ſcene.





S Ireland del.

Stone Buildings Lincolns Inn

Pub. for S Ireland March 3.1799

PASSING the weſt ſide of the hall, we find little in its form to attract attention; but, as we approach the gardens, the eye is happily relieved with an extenſive ſpace of ground, well laid out and carefully attended to; contributing no leſs to the health of its vicinity, than gratifying to the admirer of ſimple nature. This ſcene is rendered magnificent by the recently erected edifice, known by the appellation of Stone Buildings; a handſome ſtructure, which was deſigned by the late Sir Robert Taylor, and is faced with Portland ſtone. It forms only a part of a more ſpacious deſign, one wing only at the north end being finiſhed. This wing conſiſts of ſix Corinthian columns, with two pilaſters at the angles, ſupporting a regular entablature and pediment.

THE baſement conſiſts of a ruſtic arcade, which is continued along the whole range

of

of buildings, finiſhing at the top with a handſome baluſtrade. The ſix clerks and regiſter office, run parallel with this building, and front Chancery Lane. The ancient brick buildings, contiguous to this ſpot, were principally erected about the 8th or 9th year of James I.; and from their great contraſt in ſtyle, give (if we may be allowed the expreſſion) a degree of color and character, producing an additional effect on the grandeur of the Roman deſign we have juſt been contemplating.

A CIRCUMSTANCE occurred on the 23d of January, 1790, relative to theſe offices, worthy of being recorded. They were roofed with thin ſheets of copper, which, by the violence of the wind, in a moſt tremendous ſtorm, were rooted up and carried acroſs Chancery Lane into Southampton Buildings; happily no perſon received any damage.

By

By the inſcription on the ſun-dial oppoſite the gardens, we are informed that our preſent chancellor of the exchequer was a member of this honorable ſociety, and its treaſurer in 1794.

Tr.
Rt. Honble
W. P.
1794.
Qua vedit neſcitis horam.

From the terrace of the gardens, we are preſented with a noble and ſpacious view of Lincoln's Inn Fields, one of the largeſt ſquares in Europe. In 1618, this ſpot was, by a commiſſion from the king, entruſted to the lord chancellor Bacon, the earls of Worceſter, Pembroke, Arundel, &c. In this commiſſion it was ſtated, that the ground, called Lincoln's Inn Fields, was much planted round with dwelling houſes and lodgings of noblemen and gentlemen of quality; but,

at

at the ſame time, it was deformed by cottages and mean buildings, encroachments on the fields, and nuiſances to the neighborhood. The commiſſion was therefore to reform thoſe grievances, and to frame and reduce thoſe fields, called cup-fields and purſe-fields; both for ſweetneſs, conformity, and comlineſs, into ſuch walks, partitions, or other plots, and in ſuch ſort, manner, and form, both for public health and pleaſure, as by the ſaid Inigo Jones is, or ſhall be drawn, by way of map. Thus authoriſed, Inigo drew the ground plot, and gave it the exact dimenſions of one of the pyramids of Egypt. Lindſey houſe on the weſt ſide, and moſt of the buildings in that row, were deſigned from the plans of this great artiſt; and here we cannot but regret, that the whole ſquare was not finiſhed by the ſame maſterly hand. This was moſt probably occaſioned by a jarring of intereſts, which too frequently occurs in this country on ſimilar occaſions; for

it

it is no eaſy matter to unite the public ſentiments for either ornament or convenience, where private property is concerned.

For many years after the death of Inigo Jones, this place continued in a ſtate of neglect and ruin; at preſent it is certainly reſcued from any ſuch diſgrace, and preſents a grand diſplay of national wealth, with no ſmall degree of taſte in the application of it. Before Lincoln's Inn Fields was railed in, they uſed to break horſes on this ſpot; and Sir Joſeph Jekyll, about the year 1740, having been active in bringing a bill into parliament to raiſe the price of gin, became very obnoxious to the poor; and when walking one day in the fields, at the time of breaking in the horſes, the populace threw him down and trampled on him; from which treatment his life was in great danger. I am informed, though I do not remember the circumſtance, that in one of

Hogarth's prints, a low character is repreſented as chalking upon a wall the letters Sir J. J. and drawing a gibbet under them; in alluſion, perhaps, to the averſion of the above mentioned baronet to the favorite liquor of the inferior orders of ſociety.

It is much to be regretted, that, as a public convenience, there are not regular avenues at each corner of this grand ſquare; or that the objection to the additional noiſe of carriages and carts, made, as I am informed, by its inhabitants, ſhould weigh againſt the advantages to be derived from an improvement ſo beneficial to the ſtreets in its vicinity. Quitting the ſpacious buildings of this extenſive Inn, we cannot paſs what is called the New Square, without paying due attention to the handſome and commodious buildings which compoſe the three ſides of it; though we are concerned to find one of the ſpecimens of falſe taſte, apper-

appertaining to the laſt age, ſtill maintains a ſituation in its centre: we allude to a Liliputian column, ſurmounted with a kind of extinguiſher, with a cluſter of dirty urchins, totally unemployed at its baſe. Having remarked on the principal buildings and objects worthy commendation or cenſure, as they now preſent themſelves, it may reaſonably be expected we ſhould advert to the original foundation of theſe buildings, their orders for their government, public expences, revels, *&c. &c.*

LINCOLN'S INN was originally built by Ralph Nevil, biſhop of Chicheſter, in the reign of Henry III. on a piece of ground and a garden which he obtained of that monarch; together with part of the monaſtery of the Dominicans, or Black Friars, then ſituated in Holborn.

THIS monaſtery was afterwards erected

on the ſpot which at preſent retains its name.

On the demiſe of the biſhop, about the year 1312, it was occupied by one Richard de Wihty, commonly called ſaint Richard. In the beginning of the reign of Edward II. Henry Lacy, earl of Lincoln, became poſſeſſed of theſe premiſes, from whoſe title it derives its preſent appellation. Tradition ſays, and it has not been contradicted on any authority, that this earl of Lincoln, being a perſon well affected to the laws, firſt induced the ſtudents of that honorable profeſſion to ſettle in this ſpot. From the regiſter of the Inn, it appears that the ſucceeding biſhops of Chicheſter, in whoſe poſſeſſion it remained, granted leaſes to the ſtudents in the law; reſerving to themſelves certain rent and lodgings on their coming to London. In the reign of Henry VII. we find a leaſe granted by Robert Sherbone, biſhop of Chi-

cheſter,

cheſter, to one William Syllard, a ſtudent of this Inn; afterwards one of the uſhers of the bed-chamber to Henry VIII. The leaſe was for ninety-nine years, at the rent of ſix pounds, thirteen ſhillings, and fourpence, which leaſe expired in 1634.

AFTER this leaſe was granted, Richard Sampſon, one of the ſucceeding biſhops of that ſee, did, by his deed, bearing date July 28, 1536, paſs the inheritance thereof, and of the garden called Cotterell Garden, or Cony-garth, to the ſaid William Syllard, and Euſtace his brother; which grant was confirmed by the dean and chapter of Chicheſter, the 1ſt of Auguſt next enſuing. Euſtace ſurviving his brother, was ſucceeded by Edward his ſon; who, by deed bearing date the 12th of November, in the 22d of Elizabeth, in conſideration of the ſum of five hundred and twenty pounds, conveyed to Richard Kingſmill, and the reſt of the

then

then benchers, this houſe, garden, &c. in fee; whereupon a fine was levied by him on Sir Edward and his wife.

On the admiſſion of every member to this Inn, the following oath was adminiſtered; it appears to be the moſt ancient exiſting, and bears date 1439, in the 18th of Henry VI.

"For the better promotion of learning, it was eſtabliſhed in the third and fourth of Philip and Mary, that no one ſhould be admitted into the fellowſhip of this houſe, who had not, for the ſpace of one year before, belonged to an Inn of Court."

But it appears that this order was not ſtrictly attended to; for in the 7th of Elizabeth, they impoſed a fine of five marks upon every perſon who had been admitted, without

out

out having been of an Inn of Chancery. One exception, about three years afterwards, was made to this order, in favor of the utter barriſters of Furnival's Inn and Thavie's Inn. As they were the proper houſes of this Inn, as the regiſter expreſſes, after one year's continuance, they ſhall be admitted for four marks; and that having mooted theſe two vacations at the upper bar, they ſhould pay for their admiſſions only thirteen ſhillings and fourpence; but that any utter barriſter, of any other Inn of Chancery, ſhould pay twenty ſhillings. In the reign of Charles I. it was found that ſome attornies and common ſolicitors having obtained admittance into this ſociety, which was eſteemed no ſmall diſparagement; it was in a council, held on the 4th of June, in the 11th of that reign, ordered, that none ſuch ſhould in future be admitted; and to prevent, as they term it, this abuſe, they further ordered, that if any gentleman ſhould, after his admittance,

mittance, become an attorney, or common ſolicitor, his admittance ſhould be *ipſo facto* void. For the better advancement of learning in the 6th of Edward IV. an order was made, that all the members of this ſociety, ſo ſoon as they ſhould be called to the bar, or admitted to the bench, ſhould keep ſix whole vacations within three years, immediately enſuing ſuch their admiſſion to the bench; and that they ſhould be perſonally preſent at the readings, three in every vacation, for the firſt week wherein the ſame lecture was to begin; and that every member ſhould ſwear upon the Holy Evangeliſts, to keep the vacations, in all points whatever, excepting ſickneſs, or ſickneſs of his or their fathers, mothers, or wives, or any ſuits, pleadings of aſſize, or *niſi prius*, relating to them, *&c.* upon pain of twenty ſhillings for every default in the premiſes.

GREAT attention was paid to the de-

cency

cency of the apparel of the fellows of this Inn, as appears from the regiſter of this houſe. In the 23d of Henry VIII. it was ordered in council, " That no gentleman " ſhould wear any cut or hoſe, bryches, or " panſid doublet, upon pain of putting out " of the houſe; and in the 1ſt of Philip " and Mary, ſo ſtrict were they in their " regulations as to dreſs, that one Mr. " Wyde was fined at five groats, for going " in his ſtudy gown to Cheapſide, on a " Sunday, at ten in the forenoon." And in the 30th of Elizabeth it was ordered, ' That if any fellow of this houſe wear " long hair, beards, or great ruffs, he ſhould " alſo be put out of commons, and pay " ſuch a fine as the maſter of the bench " ſhould aſſeſs. Or ſhould any one of this " houſe, wear within its precinct any cloak, " boots, or ſpurs, he ſhould be fined five " ſhillings for the ſaid offence." In the 33d of Henry VIII. ſtrict orders were made,

" That no fellow ſhould wear a beard at " his repaſt, under penalty of paying dou- " ble commons." And in the 1ſt of Mary, the averſion to this excreſcence appears to have been carried ſtill further; for every one " Who had a beard at meals was com- " pelled to pay 12d. and if not ſhaven " every day, to be put out of commons." Elizabeth's averſion was ſtill greater; for in the 11th of her reign, it was ordered, " That " no fellow of this houſe, ſhould wear any " beard above a fornight growth, under the " penalty of three ſhillings and fourpence " for the firſt offence, ſix and eightpence " for the ſecond, to be paid and caſt with " his commons, and for the third offence, " to be baniſhed the houſe."

But the next year the faſhion of wear- ing beards grew very prevalent; for all orders touching beards were made void and repeal- ed. In the 1ſt of Elizabeth, it was ordered, " That

" That no fellow of this ſociety ſhould wear " any ſword or buckler, or cauſe any to be " borne after him into the town, nor ſhould " any rapiers be worn in this houſe, by any " of the ſociety." In the 18th of James it was ordered, " That no precedence of their " ancients, that no bencher being knighted, " or made a maſter of the chancery, &c. " ſhould take place within the houſe, but " in the cauſe of antiquity, and not other- " wiſe."

In the 23d of Elizabeth it was ordered, that all the ſportings, late watchings, and exerciſes, before that time uſed annually on the hunting night, ſhould be diſcontinued; and alſo, that their going on a certain day to Kentiſh town, and dining there with ſports and aſſemblies, as had been the cuſtom, ſhould no more be exerciſed.

Notwithstanding theſe reſtrictions,

this Inn has been famed for its munificence in public revels and great ſolemnities.

The earlieſt of them that is recorded, was in the 7th of Edward IV. at the juſts then held in Smithfield, betwixt Wydevile, lord Scales, and the baſtard ſon of the duke of Burgundy; when each of the four Inns of Court were, by a mandate received from the king, to furniſh out four armed men for the king's guard; and ſcaffold to be ſet up to ſee the ceremony, and the charges of all to be borne by a rate.

The next ſolemnity we read of, was at the coronation of Henry VIII. in honor of which this Inn furniſhed a hogſhead of claret wine, price twenty ſhillings; and laid out five pounds in making of ſcaffolds at Weſtminſter, to ſtand on for view of the juſts and tiltings which were then exerciſed.

In the 11th of James, a maſque was preſented by this ſociety before the king, at the marriage of the lady Elizabeth, his daughter, to the prince elector palatine of the Rhine; which coſt no leſs a ſum than one thouſand and eighty-ſix pounds, eight ſhillings and elevenpence.

In the 14th of the ſame reign, at the creation of the moſt illuſtrious Charles, prince of Wales, the benchers of this Inn agreed upon a taxation of forty ſhillings, every barriſter thirty ſhillings, under ſeven years twenty ſhillings, and every gentleman thirteen ſhillings and fourpence, towards defraying the charge of the performance at the barriers, in honor of that great ſolemnity.

Lincoln's Inn, likewiſe, took the lead of the other Inns in the famous maſque, which was preſented to Charles I. at Chriſtmas, in the 9th year of his reign. The total

charge

charge of which was defrayed by this Inn, and amounted to two thouſand four hundred pounds; to ſupport which, each bencher paid ſix pounds, an utter barriſter above ſeven years ſtanding three pounds, under ſeven years forty ſhillings, and every gentleman twenty ſhillings. In return for this munificence, king Charles I. beſides returning his thanks, invited one hundred and twenty gentlemen of the Inns, to the next grand maſque at Whitehall.

DANCINGS, and other ſimilar amuſements, were allowed here in very early days, for the recreation of the ſtudents, and as conducing to the making of gentlemen more fit for their ſtudies at other times; and in the 7th of James, it appears the under barriſters were, by decimation, put out of commons, as an example, for that the bar refuſed to dance on the Candlemas Day preceding.

THESE

THESE dancings were called revels, and were allowed four times in the year, viz. one at the feaſt of Allhalloun, another at the feaſt of St. Erkenwal, the third at the feaſt of the Purification of our Lady, and the fourth on Midſummer Day. One perſon was yearly elected director of theſe paſtimes, who was called maſter of the revels. It appears, that in the 8th of Elizabeth, the muſicians who attended theſe revels had their ſtipends increaſed double, from three ſhillings and fourpence, to ſix and eightpence, &c.

GRAND CHRISTMASSES were held here, as well as in the Middle Temple; the firſt of which that we find regiſtered, was in the 9th of Henry VIII. when it was agreed and ordained, " That he who ſhould be choſen " king on Chriſtmas Day, ought to occupy " the room if he were then preſent; and, " in his abſence, the marſhall for the time " being, by the advice of the utter bar-

" riſters

" riſters preſent, to name another. And
" on New Year's Day, the marſhall ſhall ſit
" as king, and teach the young gentlemen
" to do ſervice; and that the king of
" cockneys ſhould ſit on Childermas Day,
" and have due ſervice; and that he and all
" his officers ſhould uſe honeſt manners and
" good order, without any waſte or deſtruc-
" tion making in wine, brawn, chely, or
" other vitails; and that the ſaid king of
" cockneys, ne none of his officers medyl,
" neither in the buttery, nor in the ſtuard
" of Chriſtmas, his office, upon pain of
" forty ſhillings for every ſuch medling.
" And laſtly, that Jack Straw, and all his
" adherents, ſhould thenceforth be utterly
" baniſhed, and no more to be uſed in this
" houſe; upon pain to forfeit for every time
" five pounds, to be levied on every fellow
" happening to offend againſt this rule."

In the ſteward's office is the admiſſion book,

book, from 1671 to 1673, containing the following curious account of a viſit paid to Lincoln's Inn, by Charles II. and his court. As it tends to diſplay the hoſpitality of that period, I have inſerted it at length. What adds to the curioſity of this account, is, that the king and nobility preſent entered their names with their own hands; and, if we may judge from the appearance of the writing, many of them, and particularly Killigrew, the jeſter, were a little *non compos mentis*.

"A NARRATIVE of the kings majeſties reception and entertainment att Lincolnes Inne, the nyne and twentieth day of February, 1761."

"SIR FRANCIS GOODERICKE, knight, one of his majeſties learned councel att law, and ſolicitor generall to his royal highneſſe the duke of Yorke, being reader of this ſociety of Lincolnes Inn for the Lent reading,

in the year 1671, having invited the king, his royal highneſſe, and prince Rupert, and diverſe of the nobilitie, to dine in Lincolnes Inne hall, on ſuch day of his reading as his majeſtie ſhould make choice off; his majeſtie was pleaſed to appoint Thurſday, the 29th of February, 1671. And accordingly that day his majeſtie, together with his ſaid royal highneſſe, and his highneſſe prince Rupert, being alſo attended by the duke of Monmouth, the duke of Richmond, the earles of Mancheſter, Bath, and Angleſea, the lord viſcount Halifax, lord biſhop of Ely, lord Newport, lord Henry Howard, and divers others of great qualitie, came to Lincolnes Inne; his majeſtie made his entrance thro' the garden, att the great gate opening into Chancery Lane, next to Holborne, where Mr. Reader, and the reſt of the benchers and aſſociates, waited his coming, and attended his majeſtie up to the tarras walke, next the field, and ſoe through the garden;

the

the trumpetts and kettle drums, from the leads over the higheſt bay window, in the middle of the garden building, ſounding all the while. And from the garden, his majeſtie went to the new councell chamber; the barriſters and ſtudents, in their gownes, ſtanding in a rowe on each ſide, between the garden and the councell chamber; after a little reſt, his majeſtie viewed the chappell, returning agayne to the councell chamber; from thence as ſoon as his table (being placed upon the aſcent att the upper end of the hall, and railed in) was furniſhed, his majeſtie was brought into the hall, where his majeſtie ſate under his canopy of ſtate, being ſerved by the reader as ſerver upon his knee, with the towell before he did eat; his royal highneſſe ſitting att the end of the table, on his right hand, and prince Rupert att the other end. The dukes and lords, and other his majeſties attendants of qualitie, after ſome ſhort

tyme of waiting, had leave from his ma-
jeſtie to ſitt downe to dinnar, att tables
prepared for them on each ſide of the hall.
The reader, and ſome of the benchers, to
witt, Sir Thomas Beverley, maſter of re-
queſts to his majeſtie, Sir Robert Atkins,
knight of the bath, all the time of his
majeſties dining, waiting neere his majeſ-
ties chairs; and four other of the benchers,
Mr. Day, Mr. Pedley, Mr. Stote, and Mr.
Manby, with white ſtaffes, waited as con-
trolers of the hall, to keep good order;
and above fifty of the barriſters and ſtu-
dents, the moſt part of them attending as
waiters, and carrying up his majeſties meat,
which was ſerved upon the knee; the reſt
of the barriſters and ſtudents waiting upon
the lords att their table. The three courſes,
wherein were exceeding great plenty and
variety of diſhes, and after them a moſt
liberal banquett, was ſerved up by the ſaid
barriſters and ſtudents, and delivered by
them,

them, upon their knees, att the kings table; the muſick, conſiſting of his majeſties violins, playing all the tyme of dinnar in the gallery, att the lower end of the hall. Towards the end of dinnar, his majeſtie, to doe a tranſcendant honour and grace to this ſociety, and to expreſſe his moſt gracious acceptance of their humble duty and affection towards him, was pleaſed to demand the booke of admittances to be brought to him, and, with his owne hand, entred his royall name therein; moſt graciouſly condeſcending to make himſelf a member thereof; which high and extraordinary favour was inſtantly acknowledged by all the members of this ſociety, then attending on his majeſtie, with all poſſible joy, and received with the greateſt and moſt humble expreſſions of gratitude; itt being an example not precedented by any former king of this realme, his royal highneſſe and prince Rupert followed this great and

higheſt

higheſt example; as alſo the dukes and other lords, who, before his majeſties riſeing from dinnar, borrowed gownes of the ſtudents and put them on, and, in thoſe gownes, waited on his majeſtie, with which his majeſtie was much delighted: and his majeſtie, thro' his owne moſt obligeing favour, vouchſafed to itt, having made himſelfe more neerely and intimately concerned for the good of this ſociety, was pleaſed himſelfe to begin a health to the welfare thereof, and to cauſe itt to be pledged in his owne preſence; immediately gave the reader leave to drink his majeſties health, and to begin to his royal highneſſe. Then riſing from dinnar, he was agayne attended to the new councell chamber, where he conferred the honour of knighthood on Mr. Nicholas Pedley and Mr. Richard Stote, two of the benchers, who had in their turns beene readers of this houſe; as alſo upon Mr. James Butler, one of the barriſters,

barriſters, and Mr. Francis Darrell, one of the ſtudents; that ſoe every degree and order of the ſociety might have a ſignall teſtimony of his majeſties high favour, his majeſtie, upon his departure, made large expreſſions of his moſt gracious acceptance of the enterteynment, and returned his thanks to the reader, and was pleaſed to ſignify the great reſpect and eſteem he ſhould ever have for the ſociety."

"THE gentlemen of the horſe guards, yeomen of the guard, and other inferior attendants, were bountifully enterteyned att the coſts and charges alſo of the reader. The gentlemen of the horſe guards dined in the old councell chamber; the yeomen of the guards in Mr. Day's chamber; and the ——— men and lacquies in the gardener's houſe, to all their contentment."

"ON Saturday following, Mr. Reader,

Sir

Sir Robert Atkins, Sir Nicholas Pedley, and Sir Richard Stote, benchers and readers of Lincoln's Inn, waited on his majeſtie att Whitehall; being conducted to his majeſties preſence, by the earle of Bath, and gave moſt humble thanks for that high and tranſcendant honour, he had beene pleaſed to vouchſafe to this ſociety; which was graciouſly received by his majeſtie, and did the ſaid benchers the honour to kiſſe his hand."

In 1658, we find a bequeſt made by Mr. Henry Colfer, of Lincoln's Inn, who, by his will, deviſed 20s. monthly, for ever, for a ſermon to be preached in Lincoln's Inn chapel, "By ſome *ſuffering*, yet ſound and "learned divine;" together with the reſidue of 20*l.* annually, for certain charitable purpoſes. This will was declared valid, by Mr. Glynn and Sir Matthew Hale; being written

written all in the teſtator's own hand, though without ſubſcribing witneſſes.

And in 1754, Chriſtopher Tancred, Eſq. died, and bequeathed a certain ſum for the education of twelve young men; four in divinity, four in phyſic, at Cambridge; and four in the ſtudy of the common law, at Lincoln's Inn; where an annual Latin oration is made in the hall, in commemoration of the ſeveral donations and charities founded by the ſaid will.

In Henry the Eighth's time, a ſtudent was expelled, for "Taking away the light "before the image of St. John, in the hall, "and hanging, inſtead thereof, a horſe's "head, in deſpite of the ſaint."

In the third of Charles I. a letter was written, from the high commiſſion, to the maſters of the bench; incloſing a proceſs

againſt Mr. William Prynn, a ſtudent of Lincoln's Inn, for publiſhing a libel.

THE benchers on this waited on the biſhop of London, with thanks for the reſpect ſhown to this ſociety, and leaving it to their wiſdom to act as they may think fit.

MR. Prynn was, by a long and ſevere order, 10th of Charles, ſetting forth his cenſure in the ſtar chamber, for writing "Hiſtrio Maſtrix," expelled; but, by an order of the houſe of commons, 20th of May, 1641, he was reſtored to his antiquity and chamber in Lincoln's Inn, *nem. con.* and the above order of 10th of Charles appears expunged.

IN 1707, William Martin, Eſq. by his will, bequeathed 2000*l.* to the ſociety of Lincoln's Inn.

To

To contraſt the contracted notions of former times, with the candor of the preſent, we need only advert to an ancient order, now obſolete, reſcinded, and diſregarded, viz. "That in the 16th of Henry "VI. no Iriſhmen were to be admitted into "the ſociety;" and, in the 2d of Philip and Mary, a chamber, called the Dove Houſe, was appropriated for them, which was alſo called the Iriſhman's Chamber.

In 1768, a lecture, in the form of ſermons, was founded by the biſhop of Glouceſter * (late preacher to this ſociety) for proving the truth of the Chriſtian religion, from the completion of the prophecies in the Old and New Teſtament, which relate to the Chriſtian church, eſpecially the apoſtacy of papal Rome. And the biſhop requeſted that the Rev. Mr. Hurd (the

* Warburton.

preacher of the ſociety) and all ſucceeding lecturers, may have leave to preach the ſame annually, on the firſt Sunday after Michaelmas Term, and the firſt Sunday before and after Hilary Term. It was ordered, that Mr. Yorke would be pleaſed to ſignify to the biſhop, the juſt ſenſe entertained by the maſters of the bench, of his lordſhip's attention and regard to this ſociety on this occaſion.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,

ADJOINING the ſteward's office, is thirty feet long, and fifteen broad, contains many old prints, neatly framed, of the lord chancellors. It is a well formed room, on the ground-floor overlooking the garden.

THE

THE chapel was lately repaired at the charge of 7000*l.* under the direction of Mr. Wyatt.

THE LIBRARY.

THIS ancient and honorable ſociety have ſelected, for their valuable and extenſive library, an elegant ſuite of apartments; conſiſting of four rooms on the ground-floor, No. 2, Stone Buildings, three of which command a pleaſant view of the gardens.

IN this collection (which includes upwards of 8000 volumes) are many rare and valuable books, in the moſt perfect condition. The excellent order in which they are ranged, and the extreme neatneſs that prevails throughout the apartments, reflects great

great honor on thoſe who have the ſuper-intendance of them; and we cannot omit expreſſing our obligation to the gentleman, through whoſe politeneſs we are indebted for every degree of information we required.

THERE are two portraits in the principal apartment; that over the chimney-piece, to the left of the entrance, is well painted, and repreſents Sir Richard Rainsford, lord chief juſtice in the reign of Charles I.; the other, which hangs between the windows, is a portrait of Sir John Franklin, maſter in ordinary of the court of chancery, who, by the inſcription, appears to have died in 1707. There are, beſides, ſome fine Italian drawings, and copies in miniature, of the celebrated Venus, by Titian, and other Italian maſters.

THE ſecond chamber contains ſome very good

good pictures; among which, that of the Virgin and Child appears, in point of deſign, to poſſeſs no ſmall degree of merit. Between the windows is a very ſingular three-quarter portrait, repreſenting a handſome woman looſely attired, holding in her hand a bleeding heart, piereed through with a dart; in the back-ground are two ſmall figures, repreſenting Mars and Venus; applicable, no doubt, to the ſubject of the picture, which ſeems very ancient, and is extremely dirty; unfortunately the name of the lady is not known.

THE drawings, in this apartment, are by the ſame Italian maſters, as thoſe we before noticed. In this room there are alſo two large globes, apparently of Elizabeth's time; they are ſo much defaced, as to be perfectly uſeleſs in the preſent day.

THERE

THERE is alſo a three-quarter portrait, in the third chamber, of the famous judge Hales, who bequeathed to this honorable ſociety all his valuable manuſcripts; and, in the fourth apartment, hangs a good picture of the late lord Mansfield, chief juſtice of the King's Bench; and five old pictures, on the ſubject of Chriſt at Emiaus. In an alcove, at the further end of this room, ſtands a beautiful marble buſt of the great Cicero. There are alſo ſeveral pictures, of whoſe merit nothing can be aſcertained, as they are totally obſcured with dirt.

MR. John Nethervele, a fellow of Lincoln's Inn, by his will, 20th of Henry VII. left forty marks to the ſociety, for erecting or founding a library; the chaplain of the ſociety, for the time being, to ſay maſſes for the reſt of his ſoul, every Friday, for ever.

IN

In 1748, an order was made for a catalogue of the manuſcripts of the library to be made out; and the keys of the cheſts, *&c.* which contain them, to be delivered to the maſter of the library, and not to be opened but by his licence, or his deputy, being a bencher.

S Ireland del.

Furnivals Inn

Pub for S Ireland March 31 1799

SECT. X.

FURNIVAL'S INN.

THIS Inn of Chancery, or, as it was anciently called, Hoſtery, appertains to Lincoln's Inn. It was, in old times, the town reſidence of the lord Furnivals, a family extinct, in the male line, as far back as the 6th of Richard II.; and in the 9th of Henry IV. it appears, by their records, that they then reſided in it. I cannot exactly aſcertain in what year this immenſe pile of building was completed; but their is little doubt of its being in the reign of James.

THERE were ſeveral motives for introducing a view of it into this work; the principal one, that of its having been ſuppoſed

from a plan of Inigo, and never before engraved: the elevation, it muſt certainly be admitted, is more in his ſtyle, than in that of any other artiſt reſident in our country at that period. But our taſte and opinions ſhould not, as is too often the caſe, be formed on the bare authority of a name; nor ſhould we make that the only teſt on which true excellence is to be eſtabliſhed; we ſhould rather analiſe the thing itſelf, and weigh diſtinctly its merits and defects: by this mode of conduct we are enabled to form a fair and candid deciſion.

The grand front, it muſt be confeſſed, is in ſuch a ſtate of decay, as to leave us no power of judging of general effect; it is in no point in an upright poſition, and conſequently much disjointed; and ſeems every where to be tottering over the heads of its inhabitants, and to threaten a general diſſolution.

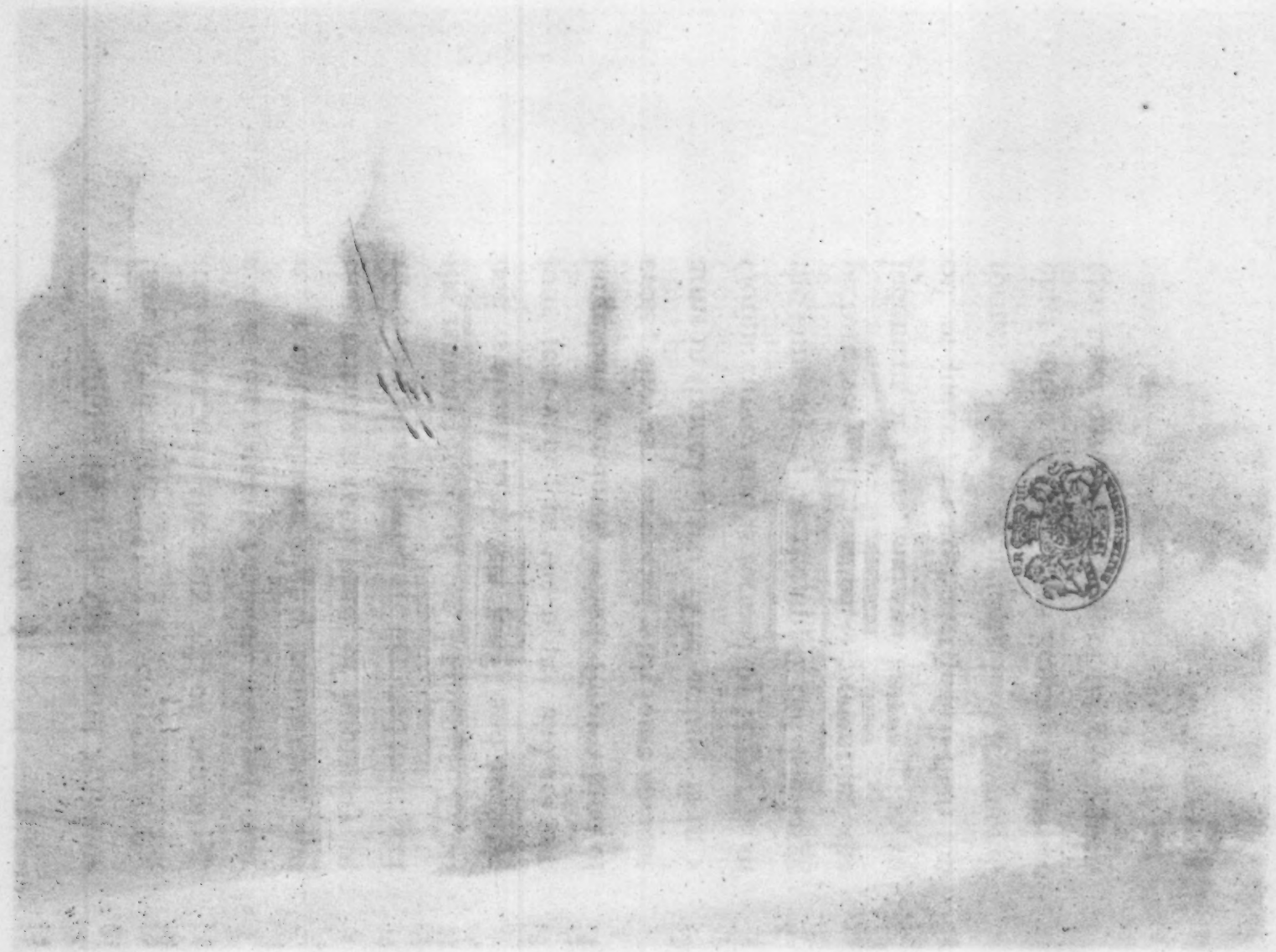
The

THE whole facade is in a mongrel ſtyle of architecture, made up of Italian patchwork, ſmall windows, intervening pilaſters, and ſad unmeaning groteſque figures, with a ſmall pediment, ſcarcely diſtinguiſhable as ſuch in the centre, and a ponderous reclining roof; weighty enough in itſelf, one would have imagined, to have ſunk the edifice a century ago. There is one prominent fault in this building, which we too frequently find attendant on the works of Inigo; that is the improper introduction of fillets, and uncouth ornaments on the ſurface of his pillars and pilaſters; we have here only the former; but in Lincoln's Inn Fields, Great Queen Street, &c. we find the latter too often diſgracing the pillar, which by the greateſt maſters has been left free and unincumbered.

ENTERING the firſt court of this Inn, the appearance of neglect and decay is ſtill more

more viſible, than in the grand front we have juſt noticed. Here the outſide of the hall appears in the very act of tumbling, and is really unſafe for thoſe who paſs near it; a circumſtance highly cenſurable, and that reflects a total want of humanity in thoſe magiſtrates, who are deputed to inſpect the ruinous ſtate of old buildings. This hall is about forty feet long, and twenty-four feet wide; at the upper end are two large bow windows, which form a kind of croſs; they are decorated with ſome ancient arms in ſtained glaſs. The ceiling is in a Gothic curve, and is formed by large ribs in the ſame ſtyle; at the upper end is a large picture very ill painted, repreſenting the judgment of Paris, and two half lengths, in oil, of judges, by no better pencil than the former: the one repreſents lord Raymond, chief juſtice of the King's Bench; the other lord chief baron Pengelly, of the exchequer.

WHATEVER



S. Ireland del.

Garden front of Furnivals Inn.

Pub. for S. Ireland March 31. 1799.

WHATEVER hand Inigo may have had in the front of this edifice, we think it is impoſſible that he could have planned the hall.

I HAVE thought proper to give a ſketch of the back front of this building, in order that the reader may judge of the ſtyle and manner of the deſign; and ſhould it hereafter be aſcertained to have been from a plan of Inigo, we ſhall be the better enabled to appreciate its merits, when it is levelled with the ground; which, I am clearly of opinion, is a circumſtance that muſt ſpeedily occur. We ſhall have the ſatisfaction of knowing there is one view of it remaining, and we believe the only one that ever has been taken.

BEHIND this Inn, is a conſiderable extent of garden ground; but, from appearances, there is every reaſon to believe, that

that neither the taſte of Brown, nor a Repton, has ever been employed in its cultivation.

THE inheritance of this Inn came to Thomas Nevill, younger brother to Ralp, earl of Weſtmoreland, in the reign of Henry IV. by Joan, daughter of William, lord Furnival; and then to John Talbot, earl of Shrewſbury, in whoſe line it continued till the 1ſt of Edward VI. when he ſold it to Edward Griffin, Eſq. then ſolicitor-general to the king, and others, for the uſe of the ſociety of Lincoln's Inn, for one hundred and twenty pounds. Since that period, the principal and fellows of Furnival's Inn, have paid to the ſociety of Lincoln's Inn, the rent of three pounds, ſix ſhillings, and three pence, annually for the ſame; and, by ſpecial orders, this Inn retains the following privilege, viz. " 10th of Elizabeth, that the utter " barriſters of a year's continuance, and ſo

" certified

" certified and allowed by the benchers of " Lincoln's Inn, ſhall pay no more than four " marks a piece for their admittance into " that ſociety." (Next in 11th of Elizabeth) " That every fellow of this Inn, who hath " been allowed an utter barriſter here, and " that hath mooted here two vacations at " the utter bar, ſhall pay no more for his " admiſſion into the ſociety of Lincoln's " Inn, than thirteen ſhillings and four- " pence; though all utter barriſters of any " other Inn of Chancery (excepting Tha- " vie's Inn) ſhould pay twenty ſhillings, " &c. &c. with many other advantages in " the courſe of admiſſion, caſting into " commons, charges of Chriſtmas, &c. to " Lincoln's Inn, in preference to all the " Inns of Chancery." Furnival's Inn is held, by leaſe, under the ſociety of Lincoln's Inn.

WITH an anecdote of a ſingular nature,

perhaps not generally known, we ſhall conclude this ſection.

BENEATH this Inn, there is an ale or cyder cellar, which, we underſtand, has of late years been famed for ſeditious meetings; it was formerly kept by one John Grey, who, after many years induſtry, realiſed a ſum of money, ſufficient to purchaſe in Yorkſhire, his native country, an eſtate of 3 or 400*l.* per annum. Having reſided upon it a certain time, he grew weary of retirement; and panting for his former active ſituation, abſolutely returned to London, and made a propoſal to purchaſe his old cellar; this being refuſed, he propoſed becoming a waiter, was accepted as ſuch, and lived there ſeveral years, receiving a ſalary till he died.

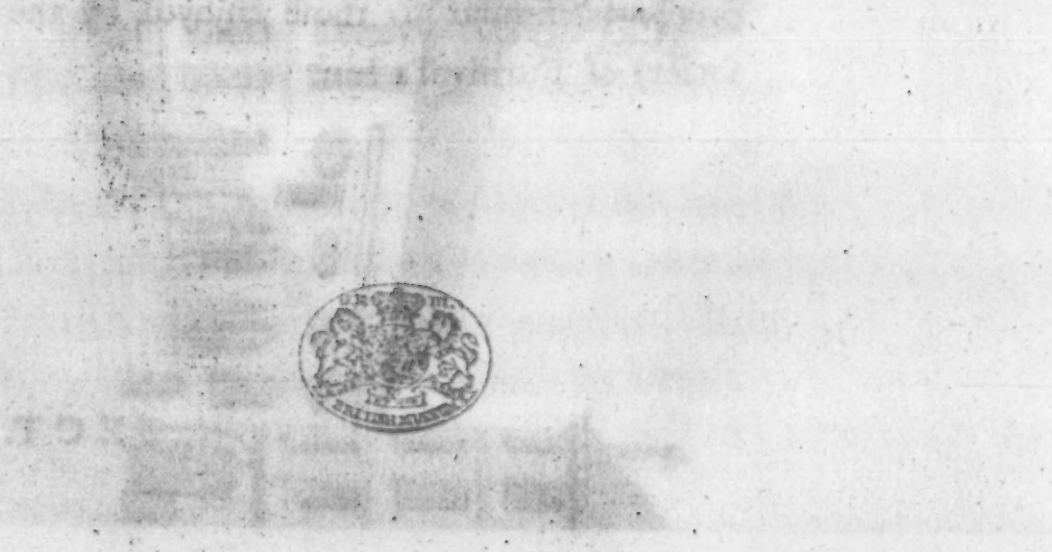
THAVIE'S INN.

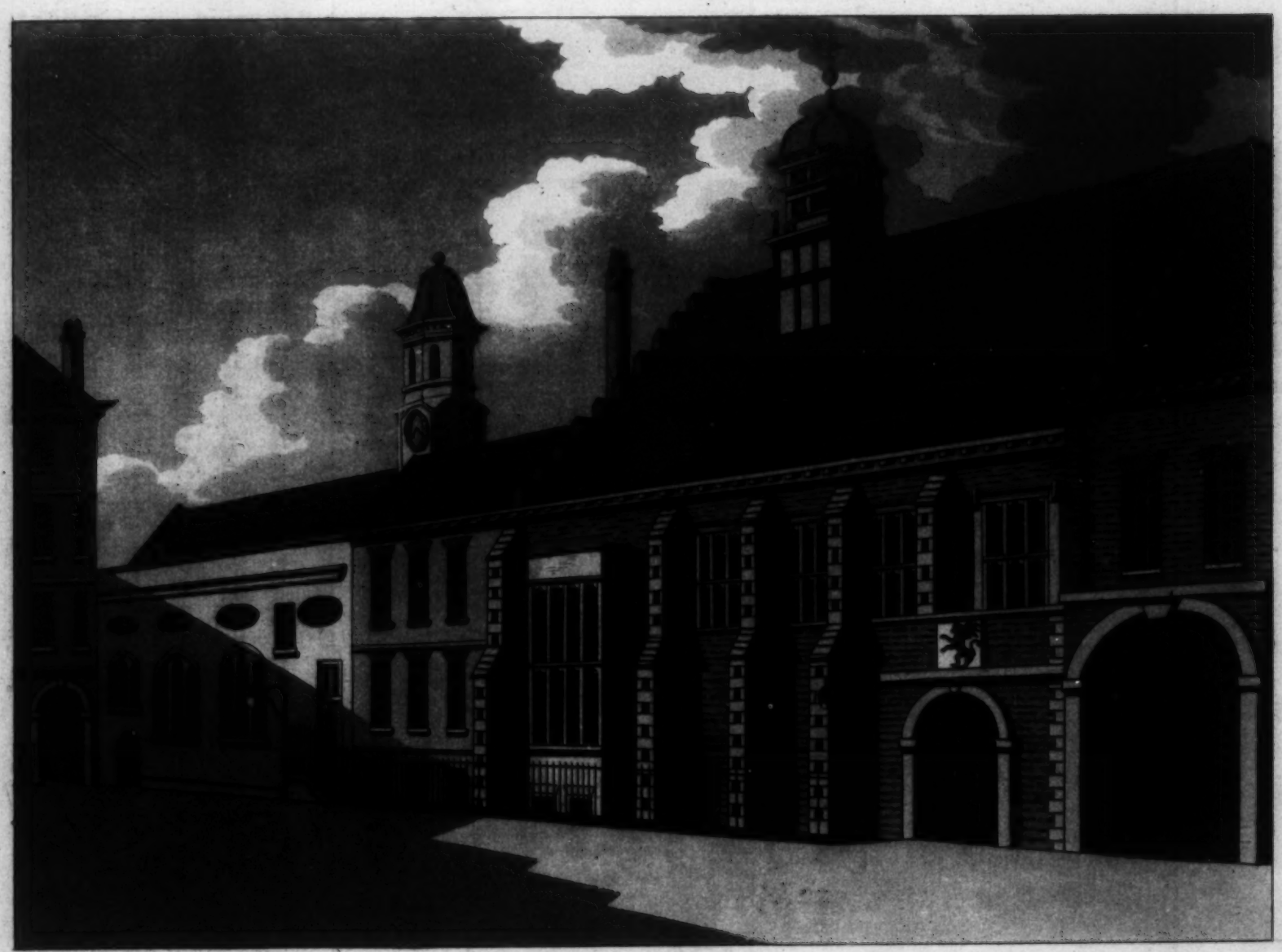
"THAVIE'S Inn, called Davy's Inn, "was, in the fourth of Edward VI. pur- "chaſed for the uſe of the fellowſhip of "Lincoln's Inn, for threeſcore and fifteen "pounds, and poſſeſſion taken for the ſaid "uſe. The ſociety of Thavie's Inn had "grants, by leaſe, until 1768. In 1769, "after being advertiſed to be ſold, it was "purchaſed by Mr. Middleton, of Lin- "coln's Inn, for 4100*l.*"

IT was ſituated near St. Andrew's church, Holborn; and, on the ſite where it ſtood, is now erected a neat and commodious range of buildings. This Inn was of great antiquity, and had ſtudents of the law reſident there, as far back as Edward III. It took its name from John Tavie, or Davy, who

directed that, after the deceaſe of his wife Alice, his eſtates, and the *hoſpicium in quo apprentice ad legem habitare ſolebant*, ſhould be ſold, in order to maintain a chaplain, who was to pray for his ſoul and that of his ſpouſe. In proceſs of time, theſe premiſes came to Gregory Neckolls, citizen and mercer of London; who, by his deed bearing date January 4, fourth of Edward VI. granted it to the then benchers of Lincoln's Inn, for the uſe of the ſtudents at law, as above mentioned. And it was afterwards demiſed by them to the principal and fellows of this Inn, for the rent of 3*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum. It has ſince had privileges, ſimilar to thoſe enjoyed by the ſociety of Furnival's Inn.

SECT.





S. Ireland del.

Grays Inn.

Pub. for S. Ireland March 31 1800.

SECT. XI.

GRAY'S INN.

THIS ancient ſeminary of the law, ſtands on the north ſide of Holborn. Its buildings are very reſpectable, and cover many acres of ground. It derives its name from the lord Grays, of Wilton, whoſe habitation it anciently was.

THE entrances to this Inn, although neither ſpacious nor magnificent, are more commodious than thoſe of our other Inns of Court. On entering the Holborn gateway, the firſt court preſents itſelf, which is compoſed of old buildings, without any regularity or beauty; nor has the hall any other claim to attention than its antiquity.

THE

THE opening a gateway, adjoining to the hall, ſome few years back, to communicate with Gray's Inn Square, was certainly a great improvement; nor has the general repair, it has recently undergone, been leſs ornamental. The annexed view is taken from the ſouth-weſt corner, that being judged the beſt point, from which the only public buildings in this Inn could be ſeen to advantage.

THE hall, from its cumbrous roof, contracted windows, and general maſſiveneſs of deſign, preſents, in every part, a very heavy and gloomy appearance; nor have we reaſon to change our opinion, on the interior ſurvey of this ancient and neglected apartment. The roof is of oak, and is divided into ſix bays or compartments, by ſeven arched and moulded Gothic ribs, or principals. The ſpandles, or ſpaces, are

divided

divided by upright timbers, with a horizontal cornice in the centre.

At the extremity of the projecting ſpandles, is a carved pendant ornament, in ſome degree partaking of the nature of an entablature. The eaſt and weſt windows, like thoſe on the ſide, are too low for their width. Some ſpecimens of coats of arms, are ſtill remaining in theſe windows. The ſcreen of this hall is ſupported by ſix pillars, of the Tuſcan order, with Cariatides ſupporting the cornice, agreeable to the manner and ſtyle of ornament which prevailed at that time. On the whole, this building has little, either of the Gothic or any other character, to attract our notice. The roof, however, has a ſolemn grandeur about it, which, in ſome degree, reſcues the whole of the building from obſcurity. It was erected in the reign of Philip and Mary; and every fellow of the houſe, having

having chambers herein, was aſſeſſed towards the expence of it.

By the account of the treaſurer (Sir Gilbert Gerard, knight) it appears to have been finiſhed on the 10th of November, in the ſecond of Elizabeth; the whole charge amounting to 863*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* The chapel, as it appears in the annexed view, has, within a few years, been newly caſed with ſtone; and, except the Gothic windows, completely moderniſed.

The inſide is on a very narrow ſcale, and can boaſt of no embelliſhment. The altar conſiſts of four Doric columns, and its entablature is ſurcharged with puerile ornaments; it is ſurmounted with a ſcroll pediment, in the centre of which are the moſt reſplendent radie, iſſuing from a dove, that I ever witneſſed.

THIS chapel was originally called Portpool Chapel; and Gray's Inn Lane was anciently ſtyled Portpool Lane.

IT appears, from the regiſter of this Inn, that at the diſſolution of the monaſteries, the prior and convent of St. Bartholomew, no longer able to pay the yearly penſion of 7*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* for the ſalary of the chaplain, the king, during his pleaſure, ordered the ſum of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be paid yearly for that purpoſe, by the hands of the treaſurer of the court of augmentation.

IN the ſixth of Edward VI. in purſuance of the act of reformation, there was an order made, "That certain utenſils in this "chapel ſhould be ſold for the behoof of "this ſociety, viz. one veſtment, with a "croſs of red velvet, a holy water ſtock of "braſs, two candleſticks, a little bell of "braſs, a veſtment of ſilk ſpect with gold,

" and a pair of organs." But in the firſt of Mary, we find all again reſtored, a new altar ſet up, and ornaments for the ſame.

In the reign of Henry VIII. " There " was a certain window in this chapel, " wherein the image of St. Thomas a " Becket was *glorioufly* painted; which win- " dow Edward Hall, one of the readers of " this houſe at that time, was ordered to " take out, in conſideration of the king's " command, in the 31ſt of his reign, that " all the images of Thomas a Becket, " ſometime archbiſhop of Canterbury, " ſhould be obliterated."

The preſent ſtate of this Inn, in point of convenience as to chambers and lodgings, appears to be very ſuperior to what it was in former times, when the ancients of the houſe were neceſſitated to lodge double; for, at a penſion held here, 9th of July, twenty-

twenty-firſt of Henry VIII. John Hales, then one of the barons of the exchequer, produced a letter, directed to him from Sir Thomas Neville; which was to requeſt him to acquaint the ſociety, that he would accept of Mr. attorney-general (viz. Sir Chriſtopher Hales) to be his bed-fellow in his chamber here; and that entry might be made thereof in the book of their rules.

We have before obſerved, that this houſe derived its name from the lord Grays, of Wilton; but at what period it became a receptacle for ſtudents in the law, does not ſeem to be aſcertained. In the eighth of Edward II. it is certain that John, the ſon of Reginal de Gray, reſided here; and that he granted certain lands, &c. lying in Kentiſh Town, near London, and in the pariſh of St. Andrew's, Holborn, without the bar of the Old Temple, unto the prior and convent of St. Bartholomew, in Smithfield; to

find a chaplain to celebrate divine ſervice, every day in the chapel of Portpool, for the ſoul of the ſaid John, and the ſouls of his anceſtors. The chapel here alluded to, is that of which we have juſt been treating.

THE inheritance of theſe premiſes continued in the family of the ſaid De Grays, till the latter end of Henry VII.; when, by indenture of bargain and ſale, bearing date, 12th of Auguſt, twenty-firſt of Henry VII, it was paſſed by Edmund lord Gray, of Wilton, unto Hugh Dennis, Eſq. and his heirs, *&c.* by the name of the manor of Portpool aforeſaid, otherwiſe called Gray's Inn, four meſſuages, four gardens, the ſite of a windmill, eight acres of land, ten ſhillings of free rent, and the advowſon of the chantry of Portpool aforeſaid.

ABOUT eight years after this bargain and

and ſale was made to Hugh Dennis, as aforeſaid, the prior and monks of Shene (near Richmond) in Surry, got a licence from the king, to purchaſe lands in Mortmain, to the amount of 100*l.* per annum; and, in purſuance thereof, did obtain from Henry VIII. his licence to Thomas Pigot and others, that they might grant the ſaid manor of Portpool, &c. &c. unto the ſaid prior and convent of Shene; which manor of Portpool, otherwiſe called Gray's Inn, with the appurtenances, &c. being, by the ſaid prior and monks accordingly poſſeſſed, was deviſed by them to the ſtudents of the law, for the rent of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum, as appears by the ſteward's accounts of this houſe; and ſo it was held till the general diſſolution of monaſteries.

THE thirtieth of Henry VIII. a grant was ſoon after made to them, in fee farm, by the king; and it appears, by the treaſurer's accounts,

accounts, that on the 18th of November, the thirty-ſecond of his reign, that he received the ſaid rent for one year, being *6l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; and that that ſum has been regularly paid ever ſince.

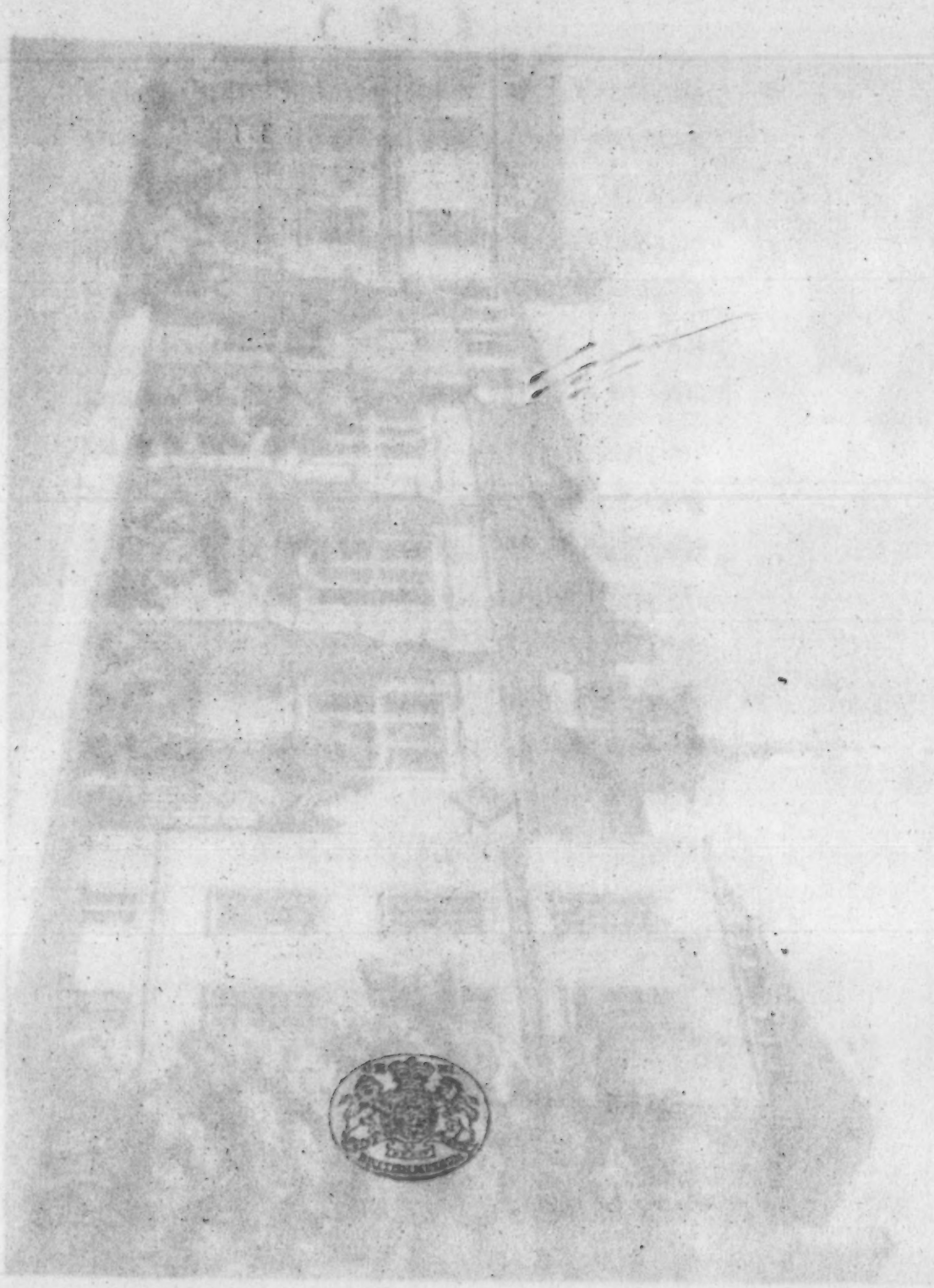
We find it aſcertained, in the reign of Henry VII. that the ſtudents of the law reſided in Gray's Inn; yet it has been aſſerted by many perſons of reſpectability (and among others by Dugdale, in his Origines Judiciales) that the members of that profeſſion had leaſed a reſidence here, from the lord Grays, as early as the reign of Edward II.

The gardens of this Inn are ſpacious and commodious; and the public, from the free uſe of them, have derived great pleaſure and advantages. The firſt mention we find made of theſe gardens, is in the fortieth of Elizabeth; when Mr. Bacon (afterwards

terwards Sir Francis Bacon lord Verulam) allowed the ſum of *7l.* 15*s.* 4*d.* for planting elm trees therein; and that a new rail and quick-ſet hedges ſhould be ſet upon the upper long walk, at the diſcretion of the ſame Mr. Bacon and Mr. Wilbraham; which amounted to 60*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* as appears by Mr. Bacon's account.

On this terrace, Mr. Bacon likewiſe erected a ſummer-houſe, on a ſmall mount; but, as the views of Highgate and Hampſtead are no longer viſible from this ſpot, the ſociety have very judiciouſly taken down the proſpect-houſe.

SECT.



Sophie Imr
Pub for S Island March 31 1835

S Island Ill.

SECT. XII.

STAPLE INN.

THIS is an Inn of Chancery belonging to Gray's Inn: it is ſituated between Southampton Buildings and Holborn, and through which is the grand thoroughfare.

IT derives its name, as we have it by tradition, from the merchants who dealt in wool, having had their meetings here, when it was called Staple Hall. The hall, though not large, is well proportioned, and appears to have been built in the reign of Elizabeth. The roof is ſupported by five principal beams, framed with Gothic ribs of oak, and enriched with groteſque ornaments; and the ends of the poſts are

carved and moulded with drops, in the ſame ſtyle.

On the lower ſhort beams of the ſpandrills of the roof, are placed upright ornaments of a groteſque and zig-zag character; differing from any even of the moſt unmeaning decorations of the moſt taſteleſs period.

A modern plaiſter ceiling and cornice, appear to have been added on the under ſide of the rafters; which, it may be preſumed, were originally of oak, and open to the view. The windows are decorated with ſtained glaſs, containing the royal arms, thoſe of ſome of the judges of the King's Bench, the principals of the Inn, and others of eminence in the profeſſion. The earlieſt date I noticed, was about 1500.

At

At the upper end of the hall is the woolſack, the arms of the Inn. Beneath it are the portraits of queen Ann, lord Macclesfield, and lord Camden.

At the lower end of the hall is another portrait, of Charles II. But the ſociety have ſo placed him behind the clock, that they either appear aſhamed to ſhow the merry monarch, or conceive that he ought to be aſhamed to ſhow himſelf. This picture is placed in what is called the muſic gallery; where no ſound is, I believe, ever heard, but the clicking of an enormous large clock.

The literary ſtock of this ſociety, which may be compriſed in a very narrow compaſs, is here likewiſe depoſited. At this end of the hall is a tolerable good picture, of the late lord chancellor Cowper.

The twelve Cæſars, placed on brackets round the hall, are good caſts, and the characters well preſerved; they were preſented to the ſociety by one of the ancients, who travelled with them from Italy; and may be conſidered as ornaments, though heavy ones.

This Inn conſiſts of two ſmall courts, in one of which is a garden, kept in very good order. The view prefixed to this ſection, will, I flatter myſelf, convey a faithful idea of the only objects worthy notice in theſe buildings.

History affords but a ſlender account of this inſtitution. It is ſaid to have given place to ſtudents in the law, and to have been an Inn of Chancery, as early as the reign of Henry V. as appears by an ancient manuſcript book of that reign.

THE firſt grant of this inheritance to the ancients of Gray's Inn, was from John Knighton, and Alice, his wife, by indenture of bargain and ſale, dated 10th of November, twentieth of Henry VIII. On the 4th of June, twentieth of James, Sir Francis Bacon, knight, then lord Verulam and viſcount St. Albans, did enfeoffe Sir Edward Moſely, knight, attorney of the dutchy of Lancaſter, Sir Henry Yelverton, and divers others, the ancients of Gray's Inn thereof, by the name of all that meſſuage, or Inn of Chancery, commonly called Staple Inn; and of one garden adjoining, with all and ſingular their appurtenances in times paſt, belonging to John Knighton, gentleman, and Alice, his wife.

STAPLE INN is under the direction of thirteen ancients, which include a principal and penſioner; the firſt is elected every three

three years by two junior members, the other holds his office at his own diſcretion.

SECT.

9

S Ireland del.

Barnards Inn

Pub.d for S Ireland March 31 1800

SECT. XIII.

BARNARD'S INN.

OF Staple Inn, our account indeed was ſlender; but of this we have ſtill leſs to boaſt: yet, as an Inn of Chancery, from the nature of our plan, we are obliged to communicate all that can be obtained on the ſubject; at the ſame time, we requeſt the reader to recollect, that we are not bound to build edifices, but only to delineate ſuch as already exiſt.

THE hall is of very ſmall dimenſions, and totally devoid of all architectural ornaments, except three roſes pendant from the ceiling, which do not correſpond with the plainneſs of the building. The roof

is

is ſupported by two horizontal beams, ſtrengthened by two arched pieces, reaching from the walls to the centre point, and thence ſprings to the angle of the roof.

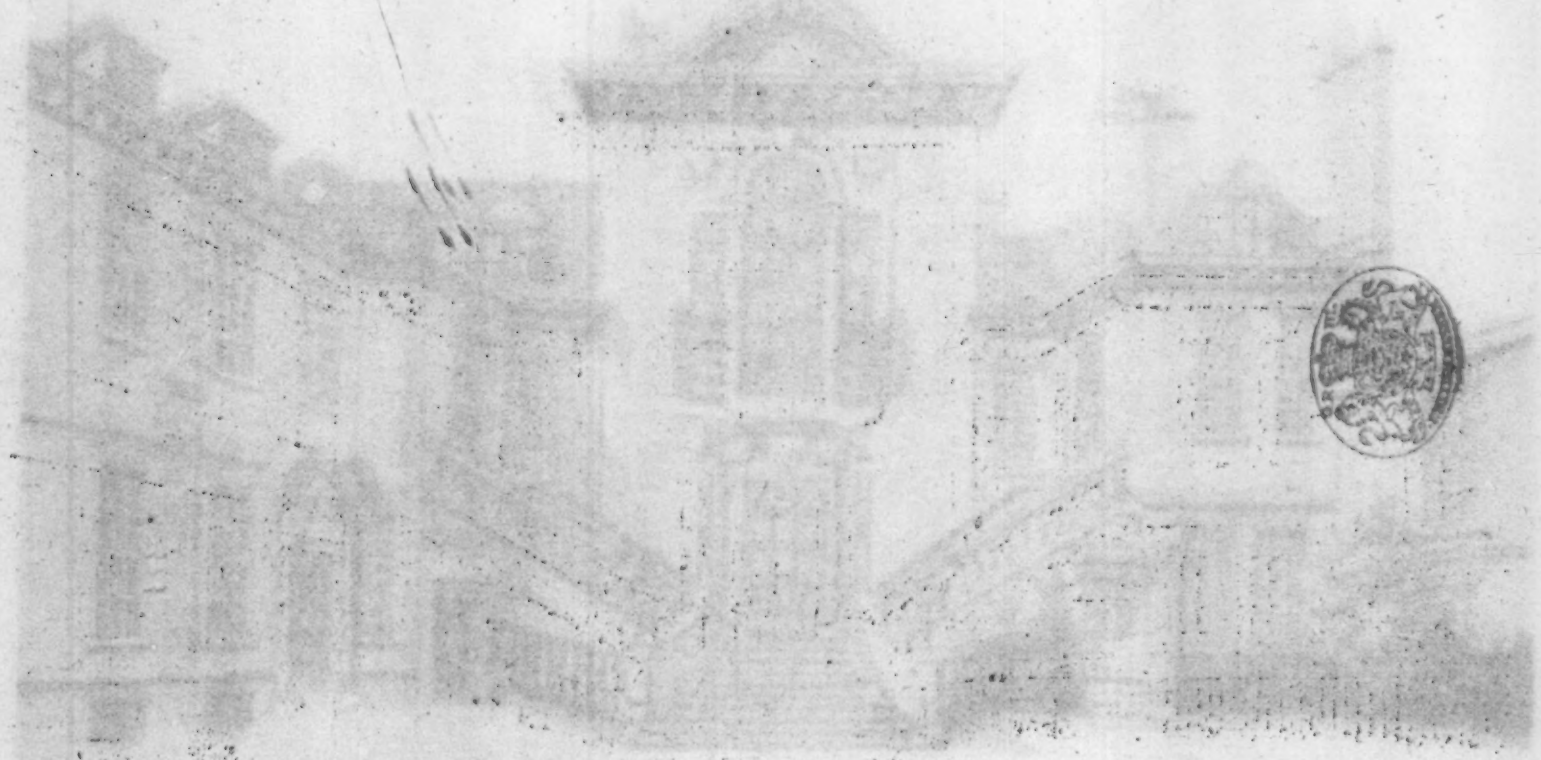
THERE are ſix windows in the hall, one of which is blocked up by an adjoining building. The centre window is decorated with the arms of chief juſtice Holt, and ſome ſmall ones of gentlemen who have been members of this ſociety. On the blank window are ſuſpended four ſmall pannels, with the arms of four of the principals.

THE fire-place, which is ſituated at the upper end of the hall, is ornamented with ſeveral portraits; one of Charles II. one of chief juſtice Holt, and three more of principals of the Inn, whoſe names I could not obtain. There is likewiſe a buſt of the late

late Mr. Pye (one of the principals) and a ſtrong likeneſs of the preſent principal, Mr. Mayhew.

At the bottom of the hall, over the door which is oppoſite to the fire-place, are the royal arms, between two portraits of lawyers, whoſe habits denote them to have been diſtinguiſhed characters in that profeſſion. Under the buſt are placed, in a frame, the orders of the ſociety. The library is not of conſequence ſufficient to be noticed.

By the fire in 1780, Barnard's Inn ſuſtained conſiderable injury; and, in conſequence, the Inn ſued the city for damages; to which they acceded, rather than ſuffer any enquiry into their boundaries, which appeared undetermined.



S. Ireland del.t

Serjeants Inn, Chancery Lane.

Pub. for S Ireland March 31. 1799.

SECT. XIV.

SERJEANT'S INN.

THE entrance to this very handſome faſcade of Serjeant's Inn Hall, ſtands on ſo confined and contracted a ſpace of ground, that it ceaſes to be any longer an object of admiration. It is a deſign calculated for more extenſive purpoſes, than thoſe to which it is applied. The view before us, will, we hope, convey to the reader a perfect idea of the building.

THIS Inn is ſituated in Chancery Lane, out of which there is an entrance into Clifford's Inn.

IN the ſeventeenth of Richard II. we

find mention is made of this houſe, the inheritance whereof belongeth to the biſhop of Ely; at which time it was called *Tenementum Domini John Sharll*, and let, by the biſhop's appointment, to one of the ſix clerks of the chancery, as appears by the bailiff's account to the then biſhop: "In 1411, twelfth of Henry IV. it was "called Faryndon Inne, and that the ſer-"jeants at law had lodgings here at that "time."

In 1416, ſeventh of Henry V. the whole houſe was demiſed to the judges and others, learned in the law; and there is accounted to the biſhop 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* "Pro Faryndon's "Inne in Chanceller's-Lane, dimiſſo Ro-"gero Horton & Willielme Cheney, juſti-"ciariis, & Waltero Aſkham, apprentiſio "legis."

In the ſecond of Henry V. after having paſſed

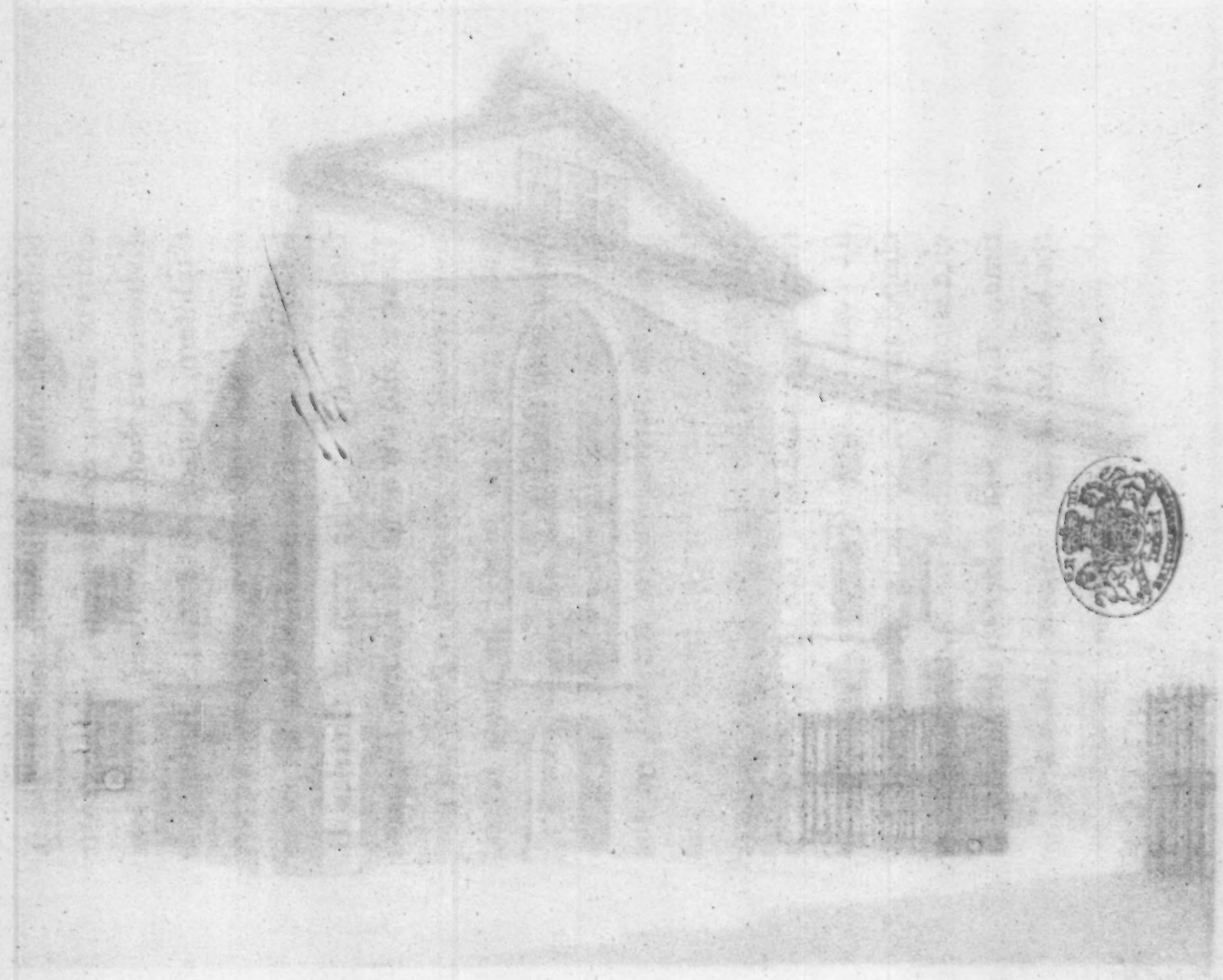
paſſed through various hands, it was, by T. Goodrick, then biſhop of Ely, "De-"miſed by a leaſe, bearing date the 17th of "December, to Chriſtopher Fulnetby, his "brother-in-law, for eighty-one years; "which leaſe coming, by mean aſſignment, "to Sir Anthony Aſhley, knight, and then, "by ſurrender, to biſhop Felton, that bi-"ſhop granted it to the ſaid Sir Anthony "for three lives (viz. of Phil. then his wife, "ſince married to Carey Rawley, Eſq. and "two of his ſervants) under whom the "judges and ſerjeants do now hold it."

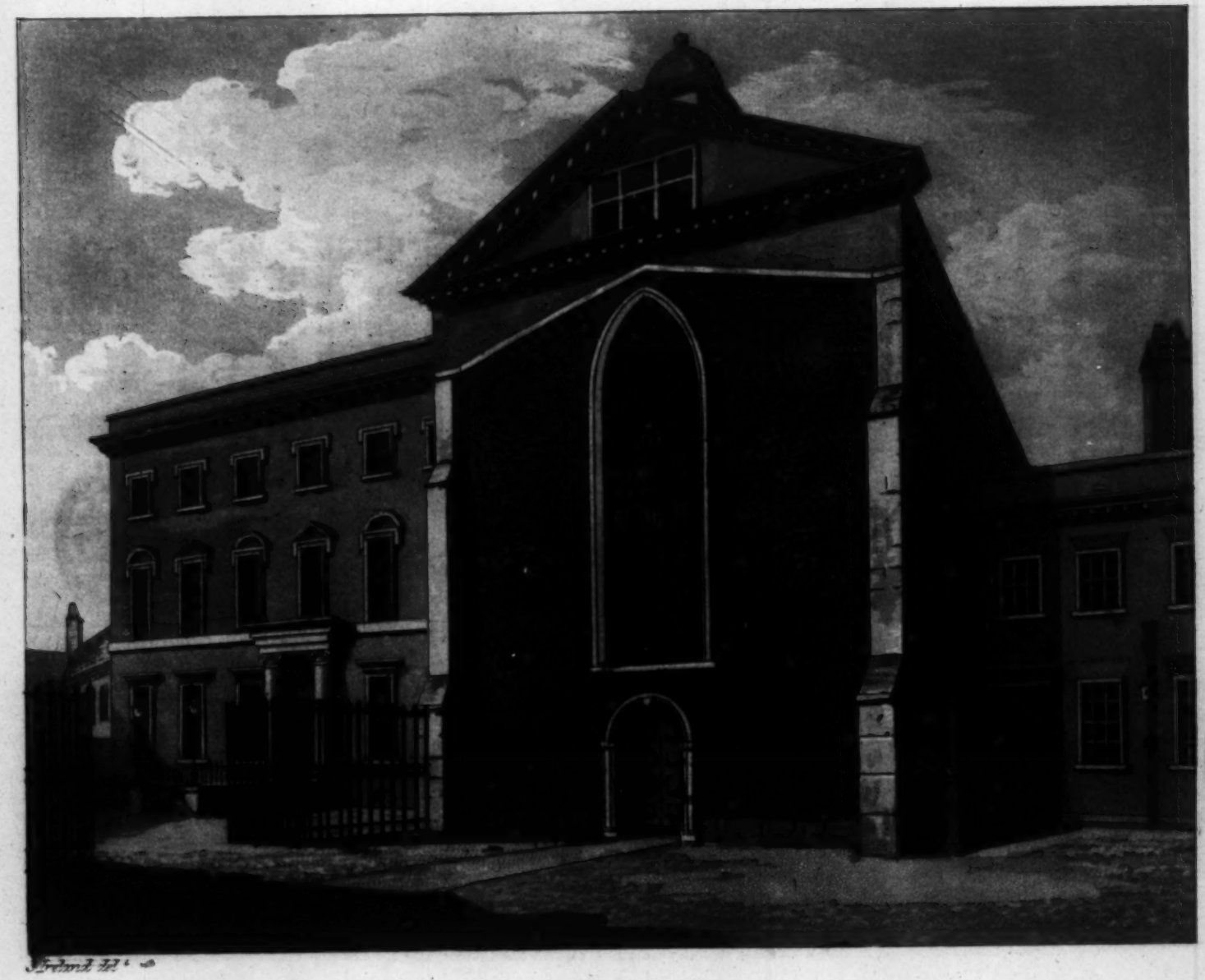
The hall, to which you aſcend by a handſome flight of ſteps, is about ſixteen yards long, by nine broad. In the great window, over the principal entrance, are ſeveral coats of arms, in ſtained glaſs, of gentlemen who have belonged to the Inn. The oppoſite window, at the further end of the hall, which is much darkened by the build-

buildings behind, is likewiſe decorated with coats of arms; among which, in the centre diviſion, are thoſe of England, and of lord Guildford, bearing date 1684. Beneath is a long Latin inſcription, whereby we are informed, that his lordſhip was keeper of the great ſeal in the reign of Charles II. There is alſo the arms of Robert Higham; and, beneath this window, a good old portrait of him in his robes: he made ſeveral bequeſts to this Inn.

At the further end of the hall, on the left hand, by an aſcent of ſeven ſteps, you enter a ſmall but neat chapel, in which are three large windows; two of them contain ſix coats of arms, the other four. In this chapel are ſeats for the judges. Divine ſervice is only performed on Sundays, in term time. The preſent reader to the ſociety, is the Rev. Mr. Iliff.

SECT.





Rolls Chapel &c

Pub for S Ireland March 31 1800

SECT. XV.

ROLL'S CHAPEL, &c.

IT appears from Stowe, "That this build-
"ing, now called the Chapel, for the cuſ-
"tody of rolls and records of chancery,
"was originally built by king Henry III.
"for the uſe of the converted Jews; in
"lieu of a Jew's houſe forfeited to him in
"the ſeventeenth of his reign, anno 1233.
"In this houſe all Jews and infidels, as
"were converted to the Chriſtian faith,
"were ordained and appointed, under an
"honeſt rule of life, ſufficient maintenance.
"And, in a ſhort time, there were gather-
"ed a great number of converts, which
"were baptized, inſtructed in the doctrine
"of Chriſt, and there lived under certain

"learned

" learned perſons, who were appointed to
" govern them."

By the following letter, which was ſent to king Edward from this houſe, it appears that they were of the Carthuſian order, and that they received yearly allowance from the crown.

In the ſixth year of this reign, viz. anno 1278, they ſent with their letter a friar, named *John the Convert*, to bring the king's charity; which letter was penned in this ſubmiſſive manner, ſtiling themſelves Cœlicolæ Chriſti, *i. e.* Chriſt's heavenly inhabitants, but very poor.

" Illustrissimo & Magnifico Dno.
" Regi Angliæ, &c. Pauperes Cœlicolæ
" Chriſti, & Conventus Dom. Cartuſie ſe-
" ipſos ad pedes, & ſiquid valet oratio
" pecatorum, ſublimitati vre' devote' &
" humil-

" humillime ſupplicamus, quatenus, nob.
" pauperrimis & indignis ſervulis vris' he-
" limoſinam que ſingulis annis de fonte
" pietatis vre' nob. miſericorditer emanat,
" & qua per gram' vram' in Altiſſimi Ser-
" vicio ſuſtentamur fratri Johi. Converſo
" nro. exhibitori preſentium, perſolvi di-
" ligenter faciat vra. benignitas gracioſa.
" Quam Rex regum Jheſus vob. & vris.
" in regno collocet ſempiterno: Et optime'
" valeat in terra Regia Celſitudo. Dat.
" Anno Dom. MCC. Lxx. viii." (In craſ-
tino be. Lucie.

In the year 1279, Edward the Firſt cauſed about 280 Jews, of both ſexes, to be hanged for clipping; one half of their effects was diſtributed among the preachers who firſt undertook their converſion, and the other half to the ſupport of theſe converts. This houſe was called Domus Converſorum.

SINCE which time, in the year 1290, all the Jews in England were baniſhed out of the realm; whereby the number of converts in this place were almoſt decayed. And, therefore, in the year 1377, this houſe was annexed, by patent, to William Burſtall, clerk, cuſtos rotulorum, or keeper of the rolls of the chancery, by Edward III. in the fiftieth and laſt year of his reign. The firſt maſter of the rolls was ſworn in Weſtminſter Hall, at the table of marble ſtone. Since which time, this houſe hath been called the Rolls in Chancery Lane.

THE maſters were ſelected out of the church, and often king's chaplains, till the year 1534; when Thomas Cromwell, afterwards earl of Eſſex, was appointed.

THIS office of high rank, follows that of the chief juſtice of the King's Bench. The duty of maſter of the rolls, is merely

to

to aſſiſt the lord chancellor in the buſineſs of his court; and to whom appeals may be made from the decrees paſſed by the former.

In the reign of Richard III. that monarch made a grant of a tun of wine to Thomas Barrow, then maſter of the rolls, to be taken in the port of London. This appears, according to a ledger of that king, to have been his fee.

In the fifteenth of Edward the Third's reign, he annexed, by letters patent, this houſe to the office of cuſtos rotulorum. And there was an act, wherein it was ſaid, "That the chancellor, or keeper of the "great ſeal, after the voidance of the ſaid "office of keeping the rolls, ſhould inſti-"tute, ſucceſſively, the keeper of the rolls "in the ſaid houſe of the converts." After which act of parliament, John de Wal-

tham, guardian or keeper of the rolls, obtained of Richard II. in the ſixth of his reign, letters patent, whereby the king granted to him, and his ſucceſſors, keepers of the rolls, the houſe of converts. This John of Waltham was afterwards biſhop of Saliſbury, and high treaſurer of England.

NOTWITHSTANDING, ſays Stowe, "Such of the Jews, or other infidels, as "have, in this realm, been converted to "Chriſtianity and baptized, have been re-"lieved there." For it is recorded, that one William Piers, a Jew, that became a Chriſtian, was baptized in the fifth of Richard II. and had two-pence per day allowed him, during his life, by the ſaid king.

IN the reign of Henry IV. there was one Elizabeth, daughter of a rabbi, who was entitled the Biſhop of the Jews, that was a con-

convert; to whom, beſides one penny per day, paid her by the keepers of this houſe of converts, out of a branch of the exchequer, appointed for that purpoſe, the king, of his grace, granted another penny per day, for her life, by a patent for that purpoſe.

THE preſent chapel of the rolls, is reported to be the work of Inigo Jones. It was begun in 1617, and finiſhed at the expence of 2000*l.* It is ſmall, and has attached to it a peculiar air of gloom and ſolemnity. The monument of John Yonge, LL.D. who was appointed maſter of the rolls in 1510, and died in 1517, particularly deſerves our notice. This figure reſts on a ſarcophagus, and is habited in a long red gown, and a deep ſquare cap. It is the work of Pietro Torregiani, a very eminent Florentine, who was brought into England by ſome merchants, and entertained in the ſervice

ſervice of Henry VIII.; for whom he executed many works in marble, braſs, &c. for which he received liberal prices.

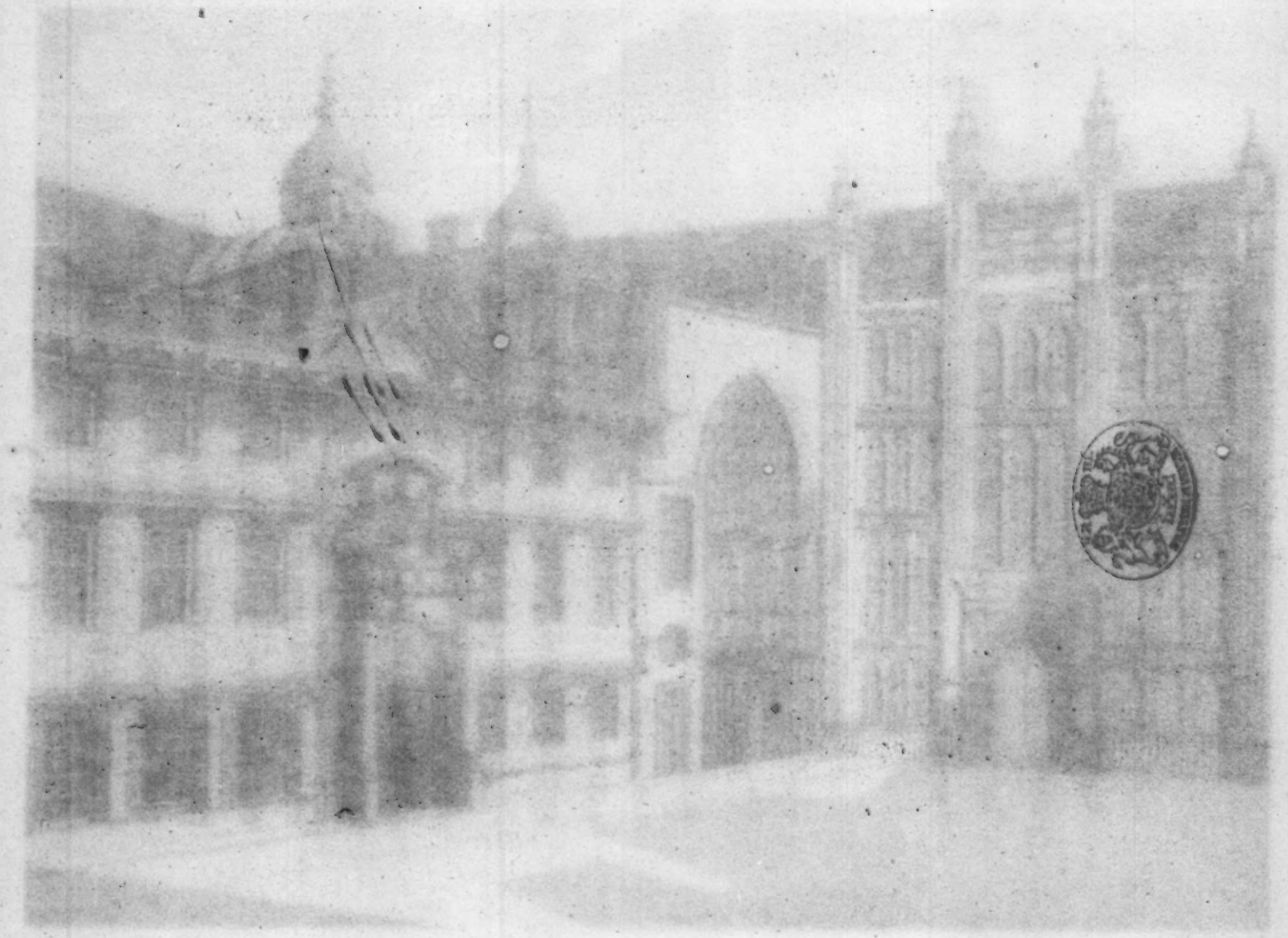
When lord Orford ſays, "He was "placed, in his own country, in competi- "tion with Michael Angelo," his merits are not to be queſtioned; and I think myſelf juſtified in ſaying, that the face of Dr. Yonge is ſo wonderfully executed, I have no doubt of its being from a caſt after his death. The head of our Saviour, and two cherubins, are introduced above, with all the ſuperſtitious zeal of the artiſt; though, to keep on terms with Henry, we are told that he renounced his faith.

From England the artiſt viſited Spain, and was employed on many works of genius; among others, in carving an image of the Virgin Mary; which, not having completed to his wiſh, he, in a fit of paſſion,

ſion, broke to pieces. For the raſhneſs of this act he was accuſed of hereſy, was thrown into the inquiſition, tried, and condemned. The execution was however reſpited; but he became melancholy mad, and ſtarved himſelf to death, at Seville, in 1522, in the fiftieth year of his age.

THE preſent reſidence of the maſter of the rolls, was built at the expence of government.

SECT.



S Ireland del.

Guildhall &c

Pub for S Ireland March 31 1800

SECT. XVI.

GUILDHALL.

So called, from the Saxon *gilda* ſignifying a fraternity, is the chief or corporate hall of the lord-mayor and commonalty of the city of London; and forms, by its front, the termination of King-ſtreet, Cheapſide. Of this front, which firſt meets our view, and is the production of an exiſting artiſt, it will, we hope, be thought neither impertinent nor invidious to diſapprove. The neglect indeed of all ſtyle, and the violation of all juſt proportion, are circumſtances, wherever they ariſe, or by what name ſoever they are ſanctioned, of too high importance to the national character, to paſs without obſervation.

THE preſent ſubject is, in every feature, ſo unlike whatever has gone before, that we are really at a loſs by what teſt to examine it. Uprights, projecting ſcarcely an inch before the ſurface, uſurp the place of pillars; but after what order, of what period, from what model they are faſhioned, would puzzle one, in no ſmall degree, to diſcover. They ſeem (to uſe the language applied to certain * other works of modern art)—

"——— in Nature's ſpite,
" One, baſe, compounded, compound compoſite!
" Where all the orders in confuſion move,
" Scrolls plac'd below, and pedeſtals above!"

THE parts, in ſhort, preſent a mere farrago of unmeaning ornament: the whole, from the eternity of window, Gothic, Roman, Grecian, or Chineſe, reſembles, and

* The alteration of the bank, by Soane.

may

may not inaptly be ſtyled, a Metropolitan Lanthorn. An edifice, fitted to the dignity of the firſt city in the world, ſhould have diſplayed thoſe characters of magnitude, ſtrength, and prominence, which imparted whatever of grandeur belonged to the works of our ancient architects; and which our modern ones are abſurdly ſtudious to conceal; exhibiting, in their ſtead, a ſorry inſipid uniform flat. The beautiful little chapel adjoining, might (if no other tolerable ſpecimen of art exiſted) have guided a judicious artiſt to the preſervation of ſomething like conſiſtency.

BEFORE we enter the building, let us examine, for a few moments, its early hiſtory.

ABOUT the year 1410, the mayor and aldermen, having taken into their conſideration the obſtruction given to public buſi-

neſs, from the want of room in their then "deſpicable cottage," the Guildhall, in * Aldermanbury, determined to erect a guildhall more eligible on the preſent ſcite; which was ſoon afterwards put in execution, under the auſpices of the mayor (Sir Thomas Knowles) and his brethren, the aldermen; towards the expence whereof, the different guilds afforded great aids. We read, indeed, that offences were pardoned for ſums of money appropriated to this undertaking; that extraordinary fees were raiſed; fines, amerciaments, and other means employed, during ſeven years. It is certain that Henry V. by his charter, granted "Free paſſage for four boats by "water, and as many by land, with ſer-"vants to each, to bring lime, rag-ſtone, "and free-ſtone, for the work of Guild-"hall."

* Said to have been founded by Edward the Confeſſor.

AND in the firſt year of Henry VI. the executors of Richard Whittington, the memorable

"Lord Mayor of London town"—

gave to the city 20*l.* in one year, and 15*l.* in the next, towards paving the great hall, "with ſtone of Purbeck." They alſo glazed ſeveral windows thereof, in which the arms of Whittington were painted.

THE building, thus raiſed and decorated, we may ſuppoſe, exiſted, with little change, till the fire of London, 1666; when, having been conſiderably damaged, it was afterwards, in 1669, found neceſſary to *rebuild*, it is ſaid, the great hall. We think, however, judging from the ſum expended, 2500*l.* that it muſt merely have required to be *refitted* or repaired.

ON

On entering the hall, the eye is firſt of all inſulted, by the monſtrous union of the Gothic and Roman ſtyles of building; nor is it appeaſed by the objects which next attract it; the Gog and Magog, as Strype ſuppoſes, an ancient Briton and Saxon, who, removed from their pedeſtals, to make way for an inſignificant balcony, are now kept in conſpicuous corners, to the entertainment of diſcerning aldermen, and the terror of their wives and children (waiting to witneſs their deſcent, whenever "*they ſhall hear* the clock ſtrike one!") Inſtead of following the line of the extreme windows, the roof is flat and very heavy; the ſides are handſome, and, in point of deſign, tolerably pure, till they reach the upper tier of modern windows, which have as little buſineſs in the hall as the giants. At the eaſt end, a beautiful Gothic ſcreen is hidden by the back of the court of huſtings; and, at the weſt, the lower compartments

partments of the great window are filled up, to accommodate alderman Beckford; who, in an attitude too confident on ſuch an occaſion to be natural, is addreſſing his majeſty in a ſpeech, which has been ſaid never to have been delivered. Around the hall (whilſt the old roof, we ſuppoſe, was yet ſtanding) were formerly placed the ſtandards, taken from the French by the duke of Marlborough, and preſented to the city by queen Ann, in 1707.

THE portraits, on either ſide the hall, were painted by Wright, and are thoſe of the eighteen judges; who, after the fire of London, ſettled the claims, as between landlord and tenant, to avoid the expence of law-ſuits, previouſly to the rebuilding of the city. They are—

On the South.

Sir Heneage Finch.
Sir Orlando Bridgman.
Sir Matthew Hale.
Sir Richard Rainsford.
Sir Edward Turner.
Sir Thomas Tyrrell.
Sir John Archer.
Sir William Morton.

On the Weſt.

Sir William Ellis.
Sir Edward Thurland.
Sir Timothy Littleton.

On the North.

Sir Robert Atkins.
Sir Francis North.

Sir

Sir John Archer.
Sir Thomas Twyſden.
Sir Charles Turner.
Sir William Wild.
Sir Hugh Windham.

In the Lord Mayor's Court.

Sir Simon Brown.
Sir Edward Atkins.
Sir William Wyndham.

AT the eaſt end are the portraits alſo of the preſent king and queen, George II. and queen Caroline; and, on the north and ſouth ſides, fronting each other, thoſe of king William and queen Mary.

AT the ſame end, and on the north ſide, is placed a cenotaph, erected to the memory of the great lord Chatham; a work highly creditable to its author; like Chatham's

fame, " it is a ſolid fabric, and will ſupport " the laurels which adorn it." The earl, in the habit of a Roman ſenator, appears, from the rock on which he ſtands, to look with benignity on the figure of the city; who, in her turn, regards him with an eye of thankfulneſs; his right hand is ſtretched to Commerce, who is pouring Plenty into the lap of Britannia; his left directs the helm of ſtate.

THESE figures are accompanied by their proper attributes; upon the plinth is the following inſcription:

" IN grateful acknowledgment to the " Supreme Diſpoſer of events, who, intend- " ing to advance this nation for ſuch time " as his wiſdom ſeemed good, to a high " pitch of proſperity and glory, by unani- " mity at home, by confidence and reputa- " tion abroad, by alliances wiſely choſen

" and

" and faithfully obſerved, by colonies unit-
" ed and protected, by deciſive victories by
" ſea and land, by conqueſt, made by arms
" and generoſity in every quarter of the
" globe, and by commerce, for the firſt
" time united with and made to flouriſh
" by war, was pleaſed to raiſe up, as a pro-
" per inſtrument in this memorable work,

WILLIAM PITT.

" THE mayor, aldermen, and common
" council, mindful of the benefits which
" the city of London received, in her am-
" ple ſhare in the general proſperity, have
" erected to the memory of this eminent
" ſtateſman and powerful orator, this mo-
" nument in her Guildhall; that her citi-
" zens may never meet for the tranſaction
" of their affairs, without being reminded,
" that the means by which Providence raiſes
" a nation to greatneſs, are the virtues in-

" fuſed into great men; and that, to with-
" hold from theſe virtues, either of the liv-
" ing or the dead, the tribute of eſteem
" and veneration, is to deny to themſelves
" the means of happineſs and honor."

" THIS diſtinguiſhed perſon, for the ſer-
" vice rendered to king George II. and
" king George III. was created

EARL OF CHATHAM.

" THE Britiſh nation honored his me-
" mory with a public funeral and public
" monument, amongſt her illuſtrious men
" in Weſtminſter Abbey."

WITHIN a little diſtance of this juſt tribute to the earl of Chatham, is the portrait of his venerable friend and coadjutor, earl Cambden; a character " fertile in

" every

" every great and good qualification;" who uniformly exerted, in the cauſe of truth and juſtice, the great abilities with which he was " entruſted for the benefit of mankind."

THE monument of Beckford, at the weſt end, is thus deſcribed by Pennant: " At the " bottom of the room, is a marble group of " good workmanſhip (with London and " Commerce whimpering like two marred " children) executed ſoon after the year " 1770, by Mr. Bacon. The principal " figure was alſo (in alluſion to Gog and " Magog) a giant in his days, the raw-" head and bloody-bones, to the good folks " at St. James's; which, while remon-" ſtrances were in faſhion, annually " haunted the court in terrific form: the " eloquence daſhed in the face of majeſty, " alas! proved in vain; the ſpectre was " there condemned to ſilence; but his pa-

" triotiſm

" triotiſm may be read by his admiring
" fellow-citizens, as long as the melan-
" choly marble can retain the tale of the
" affrighted times."

Of the feaſts held in Guildhall, the public (if not already ſated) may find a variety of hiſtories; it is here needful only to obſerve, that the firſt feaſt was held in the mayoralty of Sir John Shaw, citizen and goldſmith, by whoſe procurement the kitchen was built, about the year 1501; the feaſts, till then, having been ſerved either at Merchant Taylor's, or Grocer's Hall.

The dimenſions of the hall, according to Pennant (who borrows almoſt the whole of his deſcription from Maitland) are one hundred and fifty-three feet in length, in breadth forty-eight, and in height fifty-five; it is ſaid to be capable of holding about ſeven thouſand perſons.

In

In the hall itſelf, and its appendages, are held the nine courts which follow:

1. Common Council.
2. Lord Mayor's.
3. Huſtings.
4. Orphans.
5. Sheriffs.
6. Wardmote.
7. Hallmote.
8. Requeſts.
9. Chamberlain's.

To theſe may be added the Courts of King's-Bench and Common Pleas; wherein, for the accommodation of the city, the cauſes ariſing within it are now tried.

In the Court of Common Council, which has been recently repaired, and forms a room well ſuited to the purpoſe of debate, are ſeveral pictures, the gift of Mr. alderman Boy-

Boydell; to whom, *if he* is to be believed, not only the arts themſelves, but the artiſts of this and every other country, are *incalculably* indebted. So they are! The ſervice he has rendered them (and it is true he has ſerved them *equally)* is paſt all preſent calculation! Poſterity may perhaps appreciate it. Amongſt theſe pictures, we perceive the portraits of our brave admirals, Howe, Duncan, and Bridport, and of the lords Cornwallis and Heathfield; the laſt by Sir Joſhua Reynolds; there are alſo ſeveral views of Gibralter, at different periods of its attack, and the great work of Copley on the ſame ſubject. Theſe, with a few others of conſiderable merit, form the collection. We muſt not, however, omit to mention the four allegorical compartments of Providence, Innocence, Wiſdom, and Happineſs; they are of the old ſchool, but the firſt of them, we think, the beſt.

In the other courts there is nothing, which deſerves particular attention.

On viewing the beautiful little chapel, of which we have before ſpoken, and which adjoins the hall, we cannot but reflect, "to what baſe uſes" we may come at laſt!

It is now, by a ſtrange, not to ſay, a blaſphemous perverſion of every thing like decency, become a Court of Conſcience, for the recovery of petty debts!---So truly is exemplified the adage of the poet:

"Wherever God erects a houſe of prayer,
"The devil is ſure to build a chapel there."

The chapel was founded about the year 1299, was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen and all ſaints, and was called "The London College." It was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VI. and at that time had a cuſtos, ſeven chaplains, three clerks, and

four choriſters. In the reign of Henry VIII. it was valued at 12*l.* 8*s.* and was, with the other collegiate and monaſtic inſtitutions, diſſolved by that monarch. King Edward VI. granted it to the lord-mayor and commonalty, who hold it in ſocage of the manor of Greenwich. After the fire of London, it was conſiderably repaired; and within it, till very lately, weekly ſervice was regularly performed.

SECT.

S Ireland del.

Westminster Hall.

Pub for S Ireland March 31 1800

SECT. XVII.

WESTMINSTER HALL.

THE prefixed view of this venerable building comprifes the grand entrance to the Hall, the Duchy Court of Lancafter, Annuity Pell Office, and part of the Court of Exchequer, *&c.*

THE ſtyle of building here preſerved is the true Gothic; or rather, in the more modern phraſe, the Saracenic. There is a prevalent maſſiveneſs in its appearance. This is to be imputed to a neglect of the buildings, or to an intentional mutilation of thoſe parts of it, that were their principal relief and ornament. This ſhameful negligence, in not preſerving the original

parts, is moſt conſpicuous in the removal of the figures in the front; and in the concealment of them, by the erection of thoſe nuiſances, the coffee-houſes, at the entrance.

THE Gothic points of the niches are ſtill diſcernible over part of the exchequer coffee-houſe; and the whole length figures, in the niches beneath, we have great reaſon to believe are yet ſtanding. In an ancient print, which we have ſeen, of this building, publiſhed before the coffee-houſes were erected, the figures all appeared perfect; and in courſe gave great relief to the general elevation. We cannot but ſincerely regret the ſad innovations, that have been made along this whole range of buildings, by projections of ſheds, porter-ſhops, and other excreſcences of the meaneſt character; which, being here huddled promiſcuouſly together, conceal from the public eye every veſtige

veſtige of antiquity, and deface the beauties of works that did honor to the age in which they were erected, and which ſhould ever have been conſidered, as ſacred relics of the labor and ingenuity of our anceſtors. The front of the hall is greatly in a ſtate of decay; but, it is to be hoped, will not much longer eſcape the attention, due to ſuch a ſpecimen of ancient architecture and regal munificence.

Of the grand Gothic nich, or receſs, within the great arch at the entrance of the hall, we are concerned to remark, that, by a peculiar negligence attending this once elegant part of the ſtructure, the beautiful groined head is totally loſt; and the ſmall Gothic pillars, as well as thoſe from which the arch or doorway ſprings, are in the laſt ſtate of ruin.

On entering this noble hall, impreſſed,

as

as the mind of every one muſt be at its vaſt magnificence, we are naturally led to regret the neceſſity there was, a few years ſince, to raiſe the floor or pavement ſix or ſeven feet, by which means the grand ſymmetry of the building is loſt; and an eye, but little accuſtomed to juſt proportions, will, at the firſt glance, diſcern the want of height. This is reputed to be the largeſt room in Europe, unſupported by pillars. The roof is aſſerted by ſome to be conſtructed of Iriſh oak, which has a reputation over that of other countries, by poſſeſſing the peculiar property of reſiſting the worm. By others it is ſaid to have been built of cheſnut wood.

The roof is ſupported by thirteen Gothic ribs, of a noble dimenſion, ſpringing from the centre of each pier. It is in many places adorned with angels, ſupporting the arms of Richard II. and of Edward the

Con-

Confeſſor. The ſtone moulding, that runs round the hall, has likewiſe many devices, alluſive to Richard II. The hart couchant under a tree. Their conſtruction has been juſtly admired for its ſimplicity and elegance. The whole roof, as well as the more ancient parts of the hall, is in the higheſt ſtate of preſervation. The ſky-lights and dormer-windows in the roof, are evidently modern additions, and rather interfere with the general ſimplicity of it. Yet, notwithſtanding, the lights produced from them, will afford to the eye of the painter a brilliant variety of tints, diffuſing themſelves over this richly ornamented roof.

At the upper end of this hall, ſtand the Courts of Chancery and King's-Bench, to which you aſcend by an eaſy flight of ſteps. They are modern buildings, erected, we preſume, not more than fifty or ſixty years

years ſince. On this ſpot, Stowe tells us, "There was anciently a marble ſtone, of "twelve feet in length and three in "breadth; and alſo a marble chair, where "the kings of England formerly ſat at "their dinners; and at other ſolemn times "the lord chancellor.

"At this marble ſtone, divers matters "of conſequence uſed to be tranſacted;" and, as we have before mentioned, the firſt maſter of the rolls was ſworn in, in the fiftieth year of Edward the Third, at the table of marble ſtone in Weſtminſter Hall.

The courts are ornamented with ſix whole length figures, finely decorated; moſt probably the effigies of ſome of our ancient kings, which formerly made a termination to the hall.

The

The Court of Common Pleas,

On the north ſide of the hall, has, as well as the Courts of Chancery and King's-Bench, been of late years rendered much more commodious and comfortable, from the additional encloſures made to it. On the authority of Stowe, we ſhall quote the following paſſages, to ſhow the origin of theſe courts. He ſays:

"In former times, both before and ſince "the Conqueſt, the courts and benches "followed the king whereſoever he went; "this cuſtom being at length thought "painful and chargeable to the people, it "was, in the year 1224, the ninth year of "Henry III. agreed that there ſhould be a "ſtanding (or common place appointed) "where matters ſhould be heard and "judged, which was in the great hall at

" Weſtminſter. In this hall he ordained
" three judgment ſeats, to wit, at the en-
" try on the right hand, the Common
" Pleas, where civil matters are to be
" pleaded, eſpecially ſuch as touch land or
" contracts. At the upper end of the
" hall, on the right hand, or ſouth-eaſt
" corner, the King's-Bench, where pleas of
" the crown have their hearing. And on
" the left hand, or ſouth-weſt corner, ſit-
" teth the lord chancellor, accompanied
" with the maſter of the rolls, and with
" certain other of the eleven men, learned
" for the moſt part in the civil law, and
" called Maſters of the Chancery, which
" have the king's fee."

AND here Stowe ſays, it ſhould be noted,
" That the kings of this realm have uſed
" ſometimes to ſit in perſon in the *King's-*
" *Bench*; namely, king Edward IV. in the
" year 1462, in Michaelmas Term, ſat in
" the

" the King's-Bench three days together,
" in the open court, to underſtand how
" his laws were miniſtered and executed.
" Hence the court was called *Curia Domini*
" *Regis*. The firſt chief-juſtice of the
" King's-Bench, was named Robert Le
" Brun; he was appointed by Henry the
" Third."

THE judges of the courts were made knights bannerets, and had materials given them, for making moſt ſumptuous habits for the occaſion. Among others, they had for a cloke 120 bellies of minever pure, *i. e.* the ermine, which they retain to this day. The judges in ancient times rode to court; at firſt on mules; but, in the reign of queen Mary, they changed thoſe animals for the more docile pad.

AND here we cannot paſs over our Courts of Juſtice, without expreſſing our ſincereſt

gratitude for the bleſſings we poſſeſs from their original conſtruction, which ſecures to the ſubject every valuable privilege, by leaving his caſe to an unbiaſſed jury of his countrymen, and the preſervation of the laws to uncorrupt and independent judges.

In honor to the Court of King's-Bench, we cannot avoid mentioning a circumſtance, which, though well known, is yet highly worthy of repetition. It ſhows a ſpirit and reſolution, even at that early period, to vindicate the authority of the law, that was unparalleled, and muſt reflect eternal honor on the judge, and on the court, in which he ſat.

The ſtory is authenticated by Hall, Grafton, and the learned Sir Thomas Elyot, a favorite of Henry VIII. in his book, called The Governeur; they all agree in the circumſtance, of the ſpirited and honeſt

honeſt judge Gaſcoigne having committed Henry, prince of Wales, afterwards Henry the Fifth, to the King's-Bench Priſon, for inſulting, or, as Hollinſhead ſays, ſtriking him on the bench. We ſhall give the converſation between the prince and the judge, in the words of our immortal bard, which took place ſoon after the death of his father.

Henry. You are, I think, aſſur'd I love you not.

Chief Juſtice. I am aſſur'd, if I be meaſured rightly,
Your majeſty hath no juſt cauſe to hate me!

Hen. No!
How might a prince of my great hopes forget
So great indignities you laid upon me?
What! rate, rebuke, and roughly ſend to priſon

The

The immediate heir of England! Was this eaſy?
May this be waſh'd in Lethe, and for-
gotten?

Ch. J. I then did uſe the perſon of your father;
The image of his power lay then in me:
And, in the adminiſtration of his law,
Whiles I was buſy for the commonwealth,
Your highneſs pleaſed to forget my place;
The majeſty and power of law and juſtice,
The image of the king whom I preſented,
And ſtruck me in my very ſeat of judgment;
Whereon, as an offender to your father,
I gave bold way to my authority,
And did commit you. If the deed were ill,
Be you contented, wearing now the garland,
To have a ſon ſet your decrees at nought;
To pluck down juſtice from your awful
bench;
To trip the courſe of law, and blunt the
ſword

That

That guards the peace and ſafety of your
perſon:
Nay, more; to ſpurn at your moſt royal
image,
And mock your workings in a ſecond body.
Queſtion your royal thoughts, make the
caſe yours;
Be now the father and propoſe a ſon:
Hear your own dignity ſo much profan'd,
See your moſt dreadful laws ſo looſely
ſlighted,
Behold yourſelf ſo by a ſon diſdained;
And then imagine me taking your part,
And, in your power, ſoft ſilencing your
ſon:
After this cold conſiderance, ſentence me;
And, as you are a king, ſpeak in your ſtate,
What I have done, that miſbecame my
place,
My perſon, or my lieges ſovereignty.

King. You are right, Juſtice, and you
weigh this well;

There-

Therefore ſtill bear the balance, and the ſword:
And I do wiſh your honours may increaſe,
Till you do live to ſee a ſon of mine
Offend you, and obey you, as I did.
So ſhall I live to ſpeak my father's words:
Happy am I, that have a man ſo bold,
That dares do juſtice on my proper ſon:
And not leſs happy, having ſuch a ſon,
That would deliver up his greatneſs ſo
Into the hands of juſtice.—You did commit me:
For which, I do commit into your hand
The unſtained ſword, that you have us'd to bear;
With this remembrance, that you uſe the ſame
With the like bold, juſt, and impartial ſpirit,
As you have done 'gainſt me. There is my hand;
You ſhall be, as a father to my youth;

My

My voice ſhall ſound as you do prompt
mine ear;
And I will ſtoop and humble my intents
To your well-practis'd wiſe directions.
And, princes all, believe me, I beſeech you;
My father is gone wild into his grave,
For in his tomb lie my affections;
And with his ſpirit ſadly I ſurvive,
To mock the expectation of the world;
To fruſtrate prophecies; and to raze out
Rotten opinion, who hath writ me down
After my ſeeming. The tide of blood in me
Hath proudly flow'd in vanity, till now:
Now doth it turn, and ebb back to the ſea;
Where it ſhall mingle with the ſtate of
floods,
And flow henceforth in formal majeſty.
Now call we our court of parliament:
And let us chooſe ſuch limbs of noble
counſel,
That the great body of our ſtate may go
In equal rank with the beſt-govern'd nation;

That war, or peace, or both at once, may be
As things acquainted and familiar to us;
In which you, father, ſhall have foremoſt
hand. *(To the Lord Ch. Juſtice.*

NOTE.]—Sir William Gaſcoigne certainly died before the acceſſion of Henry V. * The time of his death, which appeared on an inſcription, which was formerly legible on his tomb-ſtone in Harwood church, in Yorkſhire, is clearly aſcertained, and was as follows:

" HIC jacet Wil'mus Gaſcoigne, nuper
" capit. juſtic. de hanco, Hen. nuper regis
" Anglia quarti, qui quidem Wil'mus ob,
" die domi'ca 17, die Decembris, An. Dom.
" 1412. 14to. Henrici quarti. factus index,

* But we muſt forget the anachroniſm, from reſpect and admiration of the very ſpirited language of our immortal bard; which could not have proceeded from the lips of any one, ſo well as the prince and the lord chief juſtice.

" 1401."

"1401."—*Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. li. p. 624.

THE Court of Exchequer, which you enter by a flight of ſteps, on the right hand, going into the hall, is very commodious, and well adapted for the purpoſes to which they are applied: it was in one of the adjoining rooms, that Elizabeth is reported to have given her favorite Eſſex a box on the ear.

ON the oppoſite ſide of the hall, aſcending a ſimilar flight of ſteps, is the Duchy Chamber of Lancaſter; wherein is kept that court by a chancellor of the duchy. Adjoining this was formerly held that baneful and tremendous court, the Star Chamber, which ſtill retains its name. Stowe ſays, "It derived its name from the roof, "which was decked with the likeneſs of "ſtars gilt; or from the old Engliſh word

" *ſteoran*, which ſignifieth to ſteer, or rule,
" as doth the pilot of a ſhip."

THE ſtars in the roof having been obliterated before the reign of Elizabeth, we ſhould be rather inclined to rely on another and more probable derivation; which is from the *ſtarra*, or Jewiſh covenants, that were depoſited there by order of Richard I. in cheſts, under three locks. No ſtarr was allowed to be valid, except found in thoſe repoſitories: here they remained till the baniſhment of the Jews by Edward I.

WESTMINSTER HALL was built in 1097, by William Rufus; its original length was, according to Stowe, " 270
" feet, and its breadth 74. When the
" king heard men ſay that this hall was
" too great, he anſwered and ſaid: This
" hall is not big enough by the one half,

" and

" and is but a bed-chamber, in compariſon " of that I mean to make." It was repaired by Thomas Becket, in 1163; and, in 1397, in the reign of Richard II. it underwent ſo thorough a repair, that it may not be improperly ſaid to have been rebuilt; for " The walls, windows, and roof, were " taken down and new made, with a ſtately " porch, and divers lodgings of a marvel- " lous work, and with great coſts." Theſe expences were defrayed, by granting a licence to ſtrangers, who were baniſhed, or had fled their countries, and had taken refuge here.

THIS hall has been principally uſed for Chriſtmas and other grand feaſts; and, in the year 1236, the twentieth of Henry III. we find it applied to the noble purpoſes of charity. The king's treaſurer was then commanded to cauſe 6000 poor helpleſs people to be fed here; " and when the " king

" king knoweth the charge thereof, he
" would allow it in the accounts."

To enumerate all the princely treats and tournaments held here, would be tedious and foreign to our purpoſe; yet we cannot omit mentioning two or three of the moſt material. One feaſt, held here in 1243, when Richard, earl of Cornwall, brother to Henry III. kept feaſt here on his marriage with Cincia, daughter to the counteſs of Provence; at which feaſt were told *triginta millia*, 30,000 diſhes of meat at the dinner.

In the reign of Edward II. the feaſt of Pentecoſt is not unworthy notice. A petition was here preſented to the king, by a female on horſeback, complaining that he had not fully rewarded his ſoldiers.

" The king, ſitting royally at the table
" with

" with his peers about him, there entered
" a woman, adorned like a minſtrel, ſitting
" on a great horſe, trapped as minſtrely
" then uſed, who rode round about the
" tables, ſhewing paſtime, and at length
" came up to the king's table, and laid
" before him a letter; and forthwith, turn-
" ing her horſe, ſaluted every one and de-
" parted.

" Our ſovereign lord the king, hath
" nothing courteouſly reſpected his knights,
" that in his father's time, and alſo in his
" own, have put forth their perſons to di-
" vers perils, and have utterly loſt, or
" greatly diminiſhed their ſubſtance, for
" honour of the ſaid king; and he hath
" enriched abundantly ſuch as have not
" borne the weight, or get of the buſineſs,
" &c."

The laſt and moſt magnificent feſtival

to

to which we ſhall advert, was that given by Richard II. on completing the repairs of the hall, in 1399. Here were duly kept juſtings, and running at tilt; whereunto ſo many people reſorted, that there were ſpent twenty-eight oxen, three hundred ſheep, beſides fowl without number: the king cauſed a gown for himſelf to be made, of gold, garniſhed with pearl and precious ſtones, to the value of 3000 marks. He was guarded by Cheſhire men, and attended by thirteen biſhops, beſides barons, knights, *&c. &c.* That the houſhold that came every day to meat, conſiſted of 11,000 people; as appeareth by the meſſes told out of the kitchen to 300 ſervitors.

From this account, we can readily believe that the king kept 2000 cooks.

In a curious book, publiſhed ſome years ago by the late Guſtavus Brander, Eſq. called

called the Form of Cury, the luxuries of the table of this monarch will be moſt clearly aſcertained. It was compiled in 1390, by the principal cooks of the kitchen of this epicurean monarch.

THUS various have been the uſes to which this grand edifice has been applied. The poor, as well as the rich, have each, by turns, had their feſtivities; Juſtice has invariably and impartially been adminiſtered; Parliaments have ſat here; Peers have been tried; and one King has here been condemned to death.

THE days of chivalry are likewiſe occaſionally renewed in the hall; and a champion, equipped in armor of paſteboard, dares all the world to ſingle combat, in defence of his royal maſter's juſt rights to the crown of theſe realms.

COMBATS we have here, likewiſe, at certain periods of the year; but they are combats of the tongue; and, though not ſanguinary, are yet frequently, in their conſequences, more fatal than even thoſe of the tilting knights armed in complete ſteel.

IN 1236, about fifty years after the building of this hall, we find a dreadful overflow of the Thames took place; and, "in the great palace of Weſtminſter, men "did row with wherries in the middle of "the hall, being forced to ride to their "chambers." Again, in 1242, the Thames overflowed the banks about Lambeth, drowning houſes and fields for the ſpace of ſix miles; "ſo that, in the great hall at "Weſtminſter, men took their horſes, be-"cauſe the water ran over all."

IN 1658, the tide ebbed and flowed twice in

in three hours; and, on March 22, 1682, three times in four hours. On the 24th of March, 1735, the tide ran ſo high, that the lawyers were conveyed away in boats. In 1736, this circumſtance was alluded to by Harry Fielding, in his dramatic ſatire of Paſquin, publiſhed in the courſe of that year; where he gives the following lines to the character of Law, in a converſation with Firebrand and Phyſic.

" *Law.* We have our omens too! The other day
" A mighty deluge ſwam into our hall,
" As if it meant to waſh away the law:
" Lawyers were forc'd to ride on porters' ſhoulders;
" One, O prodigious omen! tumbled down,
" And he and all his briefs were ſous'd together."

A MORE recent miſhap of this nature, occurred in 1791; which gave riſe to a whimſical ballad, two ſtanzas of which are worth preſerving:

Come liſten awhile to my lay,
I ſing of a ſtrange inundation,
That had like to have carried away
All the wigs and long robes of the nation:
While thinking of no harm at all,
But a few wretched people's undoing,
Father Thames enter'd Weſtminſter Hall,
Threat'ning all law and juſtice with ruin.

Of the fright univerſal it ſpread,
Conception can ne'er form a notion,
Wigs briſtled upright on each head,
Each counſellor ſtood without *motion:*
The tide that for no man will ſtay,
While the clamor grew louder and louder,
From ev'ry tye-wig waſh'd away
Common ſenſe, with the curls and the powder.

WITH an anecdote of a ludicrous nature, not attended with any ſerious conſequences, we ſhall conclude our page of remarkable events, relative to this celebrated edifice.

A SERVANT-MAID, ſome years ſince, being employed to clean the ſkylight over the Court of King's-Bench, ſhe, by accident,

dent, overſet a large pail of water; the ſudden noiſe of which ſo alarmed the chief-juſtice and the whole court, which was then ſitting, that they apprehended the hall was tumbling about their ears; and off they ſcampered helter ſkelter and *ſans ceremonie*. In the ſcuffle, as may well be imagined, they loſt their wigs, bags, briefs, ſhoes, *&c.* each flying in a contrary direction. The circumſtance gave riſe to a caricature print, wherein the parties were faithfully delineated.

HAVING thus remarked on the general hiſtory of this very reſpectable hall, we ſhall not detain our readers, by entering into an inveſtigation of the various and extenſive buildings adjoining to it; which would be foreign to our purpoſe, and exceed the limitations of our firſt deſign. Our duty has compelled us to ſay thus much on the ſubject of this venerable remnant

of

of antiquity, that commands the reſpect of all, but particularly of our countrymen; amongſt whom the lover of antiquity feels peculiarly intereſted, in handing down even the ſmalleſt trait of information relative to this majeſtic pile; which, in every part, diſplays ſome effort of genius, ſome ſpecimen of ancient grandeur, that has ſeldom been equalled, and, in no reſpect, has been ſurpaſſed, by any modern attempt in architectural deſign.

FINIS.

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ERRATA.

Page 13, line 11, omit the word *to*.
41, 11, for *Philp* read *Philip*.
126, 18, for *rooted* read *rolled*.
164, 1, after *Inigo* add *Jones*.
179, 19, for *or* read *of*.
192, 4, for *ſprings* read *ſpringing*.
196, 4, for *Sharll* read *Skarle*.

G. R. III.
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